





# Natchez Campus

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## NLCC TO FEATURE HUMOR IN THE SOUTH

Get ready to laugh! "Humor in the Deep South" is the theme of the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will take place Feb. 25-28, 2010. The Olympic Award-winning conference will feature four jam-packed days which include programs by some of America's most outstanding authors, historians and film experts, including James C. Cobb, Thad Cochran, Trudier Harris, Mary Donnelly Haskell, Sam Haskell, M. Thomas Inge, Mark LaFrancis, John Mayfield, Scott Dixon McDowell, JoAnne Prichard Morris, Marshall Ramsey, Clifton Taulbert, Charles Vahlkamp, Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp, Jerry W. Ward Jr., Jane Feltus Welch, Rebecca Wells, Diane Williams, Charles Reagan Wilson, Gerald Wood and others. In addition, there will be movies, awards, food events and more. For information: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

**Last day for registering and schedule changes: Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010**

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Please contact **Mark LaFrancis** in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at [mark.lafrancis@colin.edu](mailto:mark.lafrancis@colin.edu)

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# Natchez Campus

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## NLCC TO FEATURE HUMOR IN THE SOUTH

Get ready to laugh! "Humor in the Deep South" is the theme of the 21st Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will take place Feb. 25-28, 2010. The Olympic Award-winning conference will feature four jam-packed days which include programs by some of America's most outstanding authors, historians and film experts, including James C. Cobb, Thad Cochran, Trudier Harris, Mary Donnelly Haskell, Sam Haskell, M. Thomas Inge, Mark LaFrance, John Mayfield, Scott Dixon McDowell, JoAnne Prichard Morris, Marshall Ramsey, Clifton Taulbert, Charles Vahlkamp, Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp, Jerry W. Ward Jr., Jane Feltus Welch, Rebecca Wells, Diane Williams, Charles Reagan Wilson, Gerald Wood and others. In addition, there will be movies, awards, food events and more. For information: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

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Please contact **Mark LaFrance** in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at [mark.lafrancis@colin.edu](mailto:mark.lafrancis@colin.edu)

2010 part 3  
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**Smith, Carolyn Vance**

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**From:** LaFrancis, Mark  
**Sent:** Monday, January 11, 2010 5:11 PM  
**To:** Natchez Students; Natchez Everyone  
**Subject:** Campus Calendar January 11, 2010, and beyond

## NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION

The 2010 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will be filled with several days of top-level programs including speakers, musical programs, food events, movies, award presentations, and more. The dates: Thursday, Feb. 25 through Sunday, Feb. 28. Most programs are free and open to the public. The theme this year: "Humor in the Deep South." For more information go the web site: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc). Volunteers may contact Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman, at 601-446-1208, or stop by the NLCC office near the Bookstore.

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**Smith, Carolyn Vance**

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**From:** LaFrancis, Mark  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2010 4:07 PM  
**To:** Natchez Everyone; Natchez Students  
**Cc:** Davis, Natalie  
**Subject:** Natchez Campus Calendar Jan. 4, 2010, and beyond

**NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION**

The 2010 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration will be filled with several days of top-level programs including speakers, musical programs, food events, movies, award presentations, and more. The dates: Thursday, Feb. 25 through Sunday, Feb. 28. Most programs are free and open to the public. The theme this year: "Humor in the Deep South." For more information go the web site: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc). Volunteers may contact Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman, at 601-446-1208, or stop by the NLCC office near the Bookstore.

**ONGOING**

2010 part 3  
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# Natchez Campus

## **The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration**

February 25, 26, & 27, 2010, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, in conjunction with the Natchez National Historic Park, The Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, will be hosting the 21st annual NLCC in Natchez. This Literary aspect of the event this year will focus on authors who have written humorous stories about Southern lives. Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp of Danville, KY, a retired school librarian and collector of humorous Southern will speak on some of the humorous works of Eudora Welty. Ms. Vahlkamp will highlight a few colloquialisms Ms. Welty used throughout a number of her published works. Her lecture, entitled *Double Names, Connipion Fits, and 'Kiss My Foot': Laughing at Ourselves with Eudora Welty and Other Southerners*, will kick off the myriad of lectures geared toward the humorous works of a few Southern literary giants. For a complete itinerary of events for this years NLCC, log onto

## **MCRANEY TO PRESENT AWARD AT NLCC**

Noted actor Gerald McRaney, a Mississippi native, will present the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting to Robert Harling, screenwriter and playwright (*Steel Magnolias*, *First Wives Club*, *Lanes of Attraction* and other films). McRaney, who chairs the selection committee, helped create the award which is presented annually at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, along with the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards. Authors Robert S. McElvaine and Steve Yarbrough will receive those awards at a special ceremony Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Natchez Convention Center. The program is free and open to the public. On Friday night, the NLCC will present "A Festive Evening Celebrating the Arts and Humanities." The event (\$10/person) features U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, who will present a Humanities Achievement Award to Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr. Also on the program are Sam Haskell, best-selling author, his wife Mary Donnelly Haskell, noted singer, and Lynda Mead Shea, Miss America 1969, who will introduce the Haskell. The evening will end with a reception at the historic home Greenlea. Proceeds benefit the NLCC's writing project for young students. The NLCC features many events. See the program at: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)



**Gerald McRaney**



# Natchez Campus

Please contact **Mark LaFrancis** in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of *Walt Tracks*. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at [mark.lafrancis@colin.edu](mailto:mark.lafrancis@colin.edu)

## **SSS TO HOST SPECIAL PROGRAM**

Legendary storyteller Diane Williams will present a special program "Laughing Matters: A Look at Humor through a Cultural Lens" on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 11 a.m. in the W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose Room. Her program is co-sponsored by the Student Support Services department and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. Williams is arts industry director and accessibility coordinator for the Mississippi Arts Commission in Jackson. She has been a previous presenter at Co-Lin Natchez, delighting audiences with her storytelling. The program is free. The theme for the NLCC this year is "Humor in the Deep South," and the event is Feb. 25 through 28. For more information: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

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# REGION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

www.natchezdemocrat.com 3A

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

## Hunger in the Deep South

21st Annual Natchez Literary and

Cinema Celebration

Feb. 24-28, 2010

Headquarters:

Natchez Convention Center

All daytime events are free-of-charge!

Tickets are available for evening events:

Wednesday and Thursday, February 24-25

"Best Little Whitehouse in Texas,"

Natchez Little Theatre \$15

Friday, February 26

Remarks by Sen. Thad Cochran, Dr. Jerry Ward,  
best-selling author Sam Haskoll, vocalist Mary Haskoll,  
Natchez's own Miss America, Lynda Mead Shaw,  
with reception after at historic Greenwood

Saturday, February 27

Benefit gala champagne reception at Stanton Hall,  
dinner at the Carriage House honoring award winners  
and speakers, and humor by Clyde Roy Wibber  
\$135 (\$100 tax-deductible)

For tickets and information:

Call 601-446-1289 or

toll free 866-296-6522

Email NLCC@coln.edu

Visit [www.coln.edu/nlcc](http://www.coln.edu/nlcc)



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# Wolf Tracks

## Wolf Tracks at Co-Lin

Week of February 22, 2010

*We will be known by the tracks we leave behind. - Dakota Proverb*

### From Dr. Nettles

• I will be out of the office most of this week. Monday and Tuesday I will be attending the MACJC Presidents meeting in Jackson and will be visiting the Capitol.

• I will also be in Jackson on Wednesday to attend the HEADWAE luncheon. Congratulations to our Co-Lin HEADWAE recipients Vicki Sutton and Janet Aguilar - They will be recognized at the Capitol on Wednesday and will be attending a luncheon in their honor with legislators.

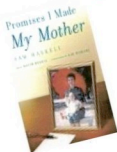


• Thursday through Saturday I will be attending the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in Natchez. Humor in the South is the theme this year and it should be a lot of fun. I encourage you to attend all or parts of the program if you have time. Most events are free. (see attached flyer)

2010 part 3  
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# OPEN BOOK CLUB

NOW READING



## Promises I Made *My Mother*

*By Sam Haskell*

*Featured speaker at the 2010 Natchez  
Literary and Cinema Celebration*

Monday, December 7, 2009  
11:00 a.m. Bring your lunch!  
Room 220

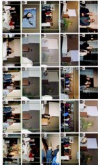
All Are Welcome!

"My friend Sam Haskell's journey has taken him from rural Mississippi to the great cities of the world—including The White House and Buckingham Palace. This book will tell you exactly how he did it. He had an inspirational mother who taught him life's lessons!"—Morgan Freeman

"My friend Sam Haskell has revealed aspects of his life that even I didn't know...**Promises I Made My Mother** is an eye opening read for anyone who has the capacity to dream."—Dolly Parton

"Sam Haskell is an anomaly in Hollywood. He brings to this book his humor, his honor and his unique perspective on how to live life. He is a great friend."—Leslie Moonves, President and Chief Executive Officer, CBS

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10 490-828  
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2010 April 3  
 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM





Robert Marling and Carolyn Vance Smith, Feb. 27, 2010

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JANUARY 2010

PRICELESS



# COUNTRY ROADS

ADVENTURES CLOSE TO HOME

NEW BEGINNINGS: THE ISSUE OF WEDDINGS

HALLOWED HALLS - EXPLORING THE HISTORIC CHURCHES OF SOUTH LOUISIANA



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PUTTING THE FRESH INTO FLORAL DESIGN

PLUS: SCANDAL IN THE ART WORLD; LE FORET, THE GATOR BAR, AND HOT SAUCE: HAUTE, OR NOT?

2010 part 3  
M: 46, 72



Critically-acclaimed Sheneka Copeland will bring the blues to the Manship Theatre with two performances. Though still in her twenties, she's opened for the Rolling Stones, headlined at the Chicago Blues Festival and numerous festivals around the world, scored critics choice awards on both sides of the Atlantic, and shared the stage with such luminaries as Buddy Guy, B.B. King, Taj Mahal and John Mayer. At this point, it seems as though Copeland is well on her way down the path taken by Ruth Brown, Etta James and Koko Taylor. Tickets range from \$35 to \$65. a pm or 7 pm at 100 Lafayette Street. (225) 344-0334 or [www.manshiptheatre.org](http://www.manshiptheatre.org).

## February 21 MUSIC

**Meachem for Opera Louisiana,  
Baton Rouge, La.**

Opera Louisiana will bring internationally-renowned vocalist Lucas Meachem to the auditorium stage of First Baptist Church. Meachem has performed with the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and the San Francisco Opera, among others, and for his Capital City concert he'll sing arias and well-loved pieces from musical theatre. Tickets are buy one, get one free, ranging from \$25 to \$75. 7:30 pm at 529 Convention Street. (225) 327-2029 or [www.operalouisiana.com](http://www.operalouisiana.com).

## February 22—May 29 HISTORICAL EXHIBIT 150 Years of LSU, Baton Rouge, La.



The photo above of a handsome group of LSU cadets was taken in the 1890s. A new exhibit at the Hill Memorial Library on LSU's campus will highlight great moments, people, places and things in the history of LSU, and it's all in conjunction with a campus-wide celebration of LSU's sesquicentennial in 2010. *Campus Chronicle: 150 Years of LSU* will touch on the military character of

## February 27 COMEDY

**Cajun Comic Relief, Lafayette, La.**

Here's a knee-slapping good time for a good cause. Three comedians—Chad Hayes, Steve Verett, and John Paul Morgan a.k.a. "Kajun Cajun"—will take turns tickling the funny bones assembled inside the Heymann Performing Arts Center, and all proceeds will benefit Goodwill Industries of Acadiana. And what would a Cajun assembly be without music? Mack Johnson and Gina Delafosse will warm audiences up with a pre-show performance. Two per-



The Eagle Expo is back for a fifth year with the aim of educating the public on the nature of the American Bald Eagle and celebrating its presence in the community. Currently, there are 284 active nests in Louisiana with a large concentration in the St. Mary and Terrebonne Parish areas.

Those that wing it westwards to the Morgan City area will have opportunities to join boat tours into Lake Verret, Bayou Black, and several other waterways to view eagles' nests, and sit in on presentations by wildlife professionals on the American Bald Eagle, wildlife, flora, fauna and the culture of the area. C.C. Lockwood will be there, as will the Belted Kingfisher, Red-tailed Hawks, Double-crested Cormorants, Anhinga, Yellow-crowned Warblers, and Carolina Chickadees.

For all the details, visit <http://eagles.blnet.org> or call (848) 395-4905.

## February 25—28 LITERA & SPOKEN WORD Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, Natchez, Ms.

Who could forget the fireworks set off in the bird-infested tree, the hundreds of dyed eggs crushed in the trunk of a car, the bleeding armadillo groom's cake, or the "Get off of my bench" scene—now that was funny. And that was Southern. The theme for the twenty-first annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration is "Honor in the Deep South," and the four-day conference will examine Stud Magnolias and other works of visual and literary

**CASABLANCA®**  
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**Trunk Show**  
February 12 - 16, 2010  
\* Open March-Gun Monday & Tuesday \*

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**MAGGIE SOTTERO**  
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FLIRT FORMALS  
**Trunk Show**  
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For More Information Call 225-341-1111 [www.maggies.com](http://www.maggies.com)

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THE CARRIAGE HOUSE - CHRIS TO GO - DJONES - EAST DRAGON  
EIGHT SISTERS - ELM PARK RESTAURANT - FELICIANA CCELLARS - HERLOOM CUISINE  
MAGNOLIA CAFE - MONMOUTH PLANTATION - THE ORCHARD - QUE PASA  
ROADSIDE BBQ - SOUTH OF THE BORDER - THE WINE PARLOR

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Beginning February 25—27

Southern art with lectures, panel discussions, film screenings, exhibit openings, writing workshops, an awards ceremony, and galas at Stanton Hall and Greenleaf. The cultural celebration offers nearly thirty events to attend, and participants can expect to laugh from start to finish. Here's a teaser:

Thursday, February 25

4:00pm "Little Old Ladies and the Last Word: An Exploration of Sassy and Risque Behavior in African American Folklore"

5:00pm "Double Names, Corruption Fits, and Kiss my Foot: Laughing at Ourselves with Endora Welby and Other Southerners"

Friday, February 26

10:00am "L'il Abner, Souffly, Pogo, and Friends: The South in Comic Strips"

12:00pm Grand Opening of the Richard Wright Exhibit Hall and Finley Collection of West African Art: Natchez Museum of African American History and Culture. \$10.

5:30pm "A Festive Evening Celebrating the Arts and the Humanities": Speech by US Senator Thad Cochran; presentation of the 2010 Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award; gala reception at Greenleaf, the home of Philip and Stella Carby. \$10.

Saturday, February 27

10:00am Honoring Horton Foote: Lecture and premiere screening of *Horton Foote*.

Regional Voice, Universal Vision

10:00am "Life in the Theatre: The Agony and the Ecstasy"

6:00pm Gala Benefit Reception and Dinner: Stanton Hall and the Carriage House Restaurant. Chef Bingo Starr will recreate menus featured in *Steel Magnolias*, and, yes, aramidillo cake is served. Robert Harling, screenwriter and playwright, will be in attendance, as will the other speakers and award-winners. \$175.

Sunday, February 28

10:30am "Capturing the News in Cartoons": Workshop by Marshall Ramsey, political cartoonist

10:00am "How NOT to make a Documentary Film": Workshop by Scott Dixon McDowell of the University of Southern Mississippi

Unless otherwise noted, all of the events listed above are free. (866) 296-6522 or [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) or NLCC@colin.edu.

February 25—28

THEATRE

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Natchez, MS

Natchez Little Theatre will bring *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* to Mississippi, with this four-day run of the musical. This happy-go-lucky view of small-town vice and statewide political

side-stepping recounts the good times and the demise of the Chicken Ranch, known since the 1890s as one of the better pleasure palaces in all of Texas. \$15. <http://natchezlittletheatre.org> for showtimes and to purchase tickets.



Choreographer Paul Taylor's *Taylor II* dance company will perform at the Mississippi Theatre in Baton Rouge on February 26. The performance will actually encompass three critically-acclaimed shows in one—*Airs*, *Funny Papers*, and *Piazzolla Caldera*. Photo by Tom Cavanaugh.

February 25—March 6

THEATRE

Little Shop of Horrors at ACT, Gretna, La

Everyone's favorite murderous plant will star in Ascension Community Theatre's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Directed by Kevin White, the show follows Seymour (Landon Watts), a flower shop attendant at Mushnik's, as he harbors a crush on his fellow employee, Audrey (Rachel Anaf). One day Seymour finds a mysterious plant that

he names Audrey II, and finds himself a not all together unwilling accomplice to murder. 3pm February 25—27 and March 4—6, 2pm February 28. 823 North Felicity Avenue. <http://ascensioncommunitytheatre.org>.

February 25—March 7

THEATRE

Americville at Southern Rep, New Orleans, La

A co-production from Southern Rep Theatre, Janeling Productions, the Ashe Cultural Arts Center and Tulane University brings a performance by Universes, a young theatre collaborative, to the Southern Rep stage. *Americville*, the newest work from Universes, fuses poetry, jazz, hip-hop, politics, blues and Spanish melodies, taking on what it means to be an American. Cast members include Steven Sapp, Mildred Ruiz, and Gamal Abdel. 8:00-8:15, 8pm Thursday—Saturday; 3pm on Sunday. 3rd floor of Canal Place. (504) 522-5454 or [www.southernrep.com](http://www.southernrep.com).

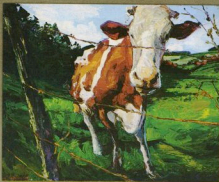
February 26

FUND RAISER

Taste of the Felicianas, St. Francisville, La

The Women's Service League of St. Francisville will host its seventh annual gala at the Henningboehm Convention Center. This year's theme, "A Mystical Night in Black and White," promises a night of mystery and magic. And fancy dress, of course. Area restaurants and

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M:4C.75



2010 part 3  
Misc. 76



2010 photo 3  
Misc. 77



2016 part 3  
Misc. 78



*Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr. and Charles Wright, cousin of Richard Wright*

**Congratulations to  
Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr.**

**Richard Wright Scholar, Friend, Advisor, Supporter  
Natchez Literary and Circus Celebration  
Natchez, Mississippi**

*Sponsored by:*

*Capital-Louisiana Community College - Natchez National Historical Park  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History - Mississippi Public Broadcasting*

*Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr. has been selected as the 2010 recipient of the  
U.S. Senator Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award*

*To be presented at the 2010 Natchez Literary and Circus Celebration*



**2010 Natchez Literary and Circus Celebration**

**"Humor in the Deep South"  
February 23 through 28, 2010**

[www.colins.edu/falco](http://www.colins.edu/falco)



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO**

***Dr. Jerry Ward***

**Upon your induction into the  
Tougaloo College  
National Alumni Hall of Fame.**

***Compliments of***



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**Website: [www.friendsofstaug.org](http://www.friendsofstaug.org)**



# The Democrat

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www.natchezdemocrat.com 505



MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2019

2010 part 3  
Misc. 1

## Not just for laughs Cartoonist speaks to NLCC crowd about work



Natchez teachers Will J. Woods and Kathy King watch political cartoonist Marshall Ramsey demonstrate some of his artistic skills during the first workshop of the Ellen Douglas Workshops at the Cape-Henry Community College Natchez campus Sunday morning. The workshop was part of the **Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration**.



Teachers Sheryl Woods and Willie Woods laugh at one of political cartoonist Marshall Ramsey's jokes Sunday morning.

BY JENNIFER EDWARDS  
THE NACHEZ DEMOCRAT

**NACHEZ** — Marshall Ramsey is a funny guy. It is easy to get a sense of his humor in the editorial cartoons published each day.

But there is more to the creative process than just the paper and ink used to capture the moments of political, economic or social goings-ons in the world that Ramsey draws.

Ramsey, the editorial cartoonist for Jackson-based newspaper *The Clarion Ledger*, presented a writer's workshop Sunday for the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

The writer's workshops were the final event in the four-day NLCC.

Ramsey, a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, discussed the process he uses each day to produce his art.

"My head is full of bad ideas, and I like to

ST. LOUIS, MO



ST. LOUIS, MO  
Walthall  
County teacher  
Donna McBeth  
admires some  
of the original  
drawings  
created by  
political  
cartoonist  
Marshall Ramsey  
Sunday at the  
Cape-Henry  
Community  
College Natchez  
Campus.

## LAUGHS: Ramsey's cartoon ideas aimed at making readers think, he says

FROM PAGE 1A

get them out on paper so I can crumple it up and get it out," Ramsey said. "The idea is the hardest part of what I do."

Ramsey said each day begins with a review of the hot topics or stories in local, state and national news.

From there, Ramsey said he looks for a clever way to put them together.

"The secret to being creative is figuring out how one and one equals three," he said. "To be creative you have to know how to observe and take one thing and relate it to another and come up with something else."

Ramsey said sometimes his creative math makes people laugh and sometimes it makes people angry. But Ramsey said he's happy with either emotion.

"My job isn't to make people hap-

py every day," he said. "It is to make people think."

He said one challenge he encounters every day is getting his message across quickly. Speaking to a room of mostly educators, he said they often have the same roadblock.

"I have about 30 seconds with a reader. I remember when (students) had 22-minute attention spans because of sitcoms," he said. "Now, (the attention span) is about the length of a YouTube video."

But Ramsey didn't get to where he is, a nationally syndicated cartoonist, quickly or easily. He worked as a cartoonist for his high school and college newspapers, but wasn't able to find a job after college.

The only position he was able to secure was that of a janitor at high school in his hometown in Georgia.

"About six months into that, after sulking around and feeling sorry for

myself, I realized I was burying my talent," Ramsey said. "So I started doing caricatures for teachers and started doing more and more of that kind of work."

That eventually led to a job in the advertising department at a newspaper which jumpstarted his career as a cartoonist.

Ramsey called his job "a dream" and a true testament to where hard work and dedication can lead. He said when given the chance to talk to high school students, he doesn't shy away from telling about his job as a janitor because it taught him a lesson.

"I like to tell the kids that I fell on my face because it is likely at some point they will too," he said. "What is important, and what I want them to learn, is it doesn't matter how you fall, but how you get back up."

Sometimes the worst moments in your life can become your best."

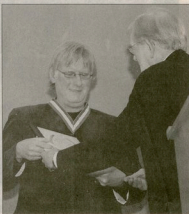


# NLCC AWARDS CEREMONY



HANNAH REEL | THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

Screenwriter and playwright Robert Harling speaks after being awarded the Horton Foote Award during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration awards ceremony Saturday.



HANNAH REEL | THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

Author Steve Yarbrough is presented the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award from John D.W. Gulice, history emeritus professor at the University of Southern Mississippi, during the NLCC ceremony Saturday.

2010 part 3  
Misc. 2

## OUR OPINION

# February ends in a rush of news

**H**ello March. We hope you bring dry skies, sunny days and warmer temperatures along with you.

But before we bid a final farewell to February, we do need to acknowledge the good news of the month's final week.

And what a busy week it was.

► The Natchez **Library and Classroom**

**We think the addition to downtown will not only be great for the church, but for the entire community.**

**Celebrations** filled much of the week with great speakers and great events. So many free events make this conference one of our favorites, and we hope you took advantage.

► Natchez Community Hospital honored five local women for their outstanding contributions to the community. Congratulations and thank you to the winners: Debbie Hudson, Renee Ballard, Barbara Ann Mingo, Tonnie Jones and Rachel Holweg.

► Tasman Stampers 13 is getting an earlier-than-normal start on his Eagle Scout project, and we think that's great. The teen is building a prayer garden at his church. It's a great idea and a great cause, Tasman.

► St. Mary Catholic Church released drawings of their plans for a family life center building on Main Street. The plans look great, and we think the addition to downtown will not only be great for the church, but for the entire community.

► Adams County Christian School's dance team is headed to the National Dance Alliance's Nationals in Florida. These girls have worked hard to earn the right to compete, and we wish them luck.

Now on to March and yet another great month.

2010 part 3  
misc. 3

## Clintonian receives literary honor

SPECIAL TO THE CLINTON NEWS • MARCH 4, 2010

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CLINTON, Miss.

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Historian, author and longtime Clintonian Robert S. McElvaine is a winner of the 2010 Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award.

ADVERTISEMENT

The honor was presented Friday at the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in Natchez. It is given annually to honor Wright, the internationally acclaimed author and Natchez native who wrote the classic books *Black Boy* and *Native Son*.

Past winners of the award, based on a body of literary work, include Eudora Welty, John Grisham, Greg Iles, Willie Morris, Elizabeth Spencer, Richard Ford, Beth Henley and William Raspberry.

Also winning the Richard Wright Award this year is novelist Steve Yarbrough. Robert Harling, who wrote the screenplays for *Steel Magnolias*, *First Wives Club* and *Laws of Attraction*, received the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting.

McElvaine, the Elizabeth Chisholm Professor of Arts and Letters and chair of the Department of History at Millsaps College, has written numerous books and is a nationally recognized commentator on American history, politics and culture.

2010 part 3  
Misc. 4

Search this site:

Search

## Natchez Honors Artists With The Write Stuff

Published by Ron Brown on 05 Mar 2010 3:27am



Mississippi Native Gerald McRaney



How America views the south depends largely on the work of Southern artists. And as MPB arts reporter Ron Brown tells us, each year in Natchez there's a special gathering to honor southerners who have the right stuff.

Every year just before Spring returns to Mississippi, a particular sound arrives first. It is hundreds of excited people milling around the Natchez Convention center. They've been coming for 21 years to pay tribute to writers – more specifically southern writers.

2010 part 3  
MISC. 5



# Natchez Campus



Cartoonist Marshall Ramsey autographs a sketch for Kathy King while Patsy Fortinberry looks on. Ramsey, Pulitzer Prize finalist and cartoonist for the Clarion-Ledger, did a workshop on cartooning at the Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops Feb. 28 as part of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

## LIBRARY HOSTING CAMPUS EXHIBIT

The Willie Mae Dunn Library is hosting a Student and Staff Art Exhibit during the month of April. Work should be brought to the library no later than March 29. The library is seeking work in the following medium: Photography, Ceramics, Painting, Sculpture, Collage/Mixed Media, Drawings, Fiber/Decorative Arts/Jewelry. See any member of the library staff for information.

## FILM CLUB TO SHOW 'PANDA'

"Kung Fu Panda" will be shown as the free film for the Film Club's Dinner/Theatre Wednesday, March 10, in the academic activity room, at 11 a.m. The dinner will be pasta and meat sauce, salad, bread, dessert and beverages, for only \$5. Tickets are being sold by club members. Also, tickets are available from advisor Mark LaFrancis. Part of the proceeds will go to the Natchez-Adams County Humane Society Building Fund.

## SPECIAL INTEREST CLASS OPENINGS

Two evening Special Interest Classes have openings: Microsoft Office 2007, April 12-May 5, Monday and Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. (\$80), and Instant Piano, April 26, 6:30-9:30 p.m. (\$50). See Beth Richard in the library.

## HEARD RETURNS FROM MISSION TRIP

Judy Heard, career-technical education student services coordinator, accompanied a group from this area, on a Presbyterian Church mission trip to Mexico recently. The group visited Campeche to help teach children, visit the local people, and bring faith and goodwill to the residents.

## SPRING FLING AROUND THE CORNER

The annual Spring Fling is later this month. The theme this year is "Wolfstock," reminiscent of the fabled Woodstock, but without all the wild activities. "Wolfstock" will be March 28-April 1 with a variety of activities planned, including the annual field day which will be on Thursday, April 1. A lineup of events is being developed, and participation among clubs and organizations is encouraged. To participate or for information contact Nancy McFarland, academic counselor.

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Students of the Month for December and January have been selected. They are Mark M. LaFrancis for December, and Marquita Young for January.

## BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULED MARCH 25

The campus will host a Blood Drive March 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Wellness Center (400). United Blood Services of Jackson will conduct the drive. To sign up, individuals can log on to: [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com) and use colin as the sponsor code. The drive will be open to the public.



Student Takita Brown, left, placed third in Word Processing in the recent Phi Beta Lambda state competition, while student Marlisha Brinkley placed first in Information Management.

**Spring Break: March 15-19; campus closed**

Please contact Mark LaFrancis in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at [mark.lafrancis@colin.edu](mailto:mark.lafrancis@colin.edu)

2010 part 3  
M.S.L. 6

**Sim Chase Callon**

August 16, 1916 - March 28, 2010

**NATCHEZ** — Services for Sim Chase Callon, 93, of Natchez, who died at his home Sunday, March 28, 2010, will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Denny Read officiating.

Burial will follow at the Natchez City Cemetery under the direction of Laird Funeral Home.

Visitation will be from 2 p.m. until service time at First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Callon was born Aug. 16, 1916, in Adams County, the son of Fred L. and Anna Chase Callon.

He was educated in the Adams County schools and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps. In the early 1950s, he joined his brother John S. Callon to form Callon Oil & Gas Company, which later became Callon Petroleum Company. Today the company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and engages in the exploration and production of oil and gas onshore and offshore in the United States. He retired as chairman and chief executive officer in 1981.

He was a dedicated member of the First Presbyterian Church of Natchez, where he served as an elder and a deacon.

He was president, treasurer and board member of the Rotary Club of Natchez, of which he was a Paul Harris Fellow; chairman of the board of trustees of Natchez Regional Medical Center; and president of the Confederate Oil Invitational.

He also served as a director of Deposit Guaranty National Bank and the bank's Natchez Advisory Board, until retiring from these positions in 1987.

In 1974, he was instrumental in establishing the headquarters of the Historic Natchez Foundation. He served on the HNF board of directors for many years and received the HNF Lifetime Achievement Award.

He was member of the board of directors of the Mississippi Historical Society and a strong supporter and leader of the Natchez Historical Society, which awarded him the Historic Preservation Award in 1983.

He was a strong supporter of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, the Historic Natchez Conference, the Pilgrimage Garden Club Antiques Forum, Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Elderhostel program and other historical and cultural events.

An avid collector of photographs related to Natchez and a successful photographer and amateur historian, Mr. Callon researched, developed and presented numerous illustrated programs about various facets of Natchez history. He was co-author of two books about Natchez, "Natchez: An Illustrated History" and "The Goat Castle Murder: A True Natchez Story That Shocked the World."

He was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers William P. Callon, Ben Chase Callon, Fred L. "June" Callon Jr. and John S. Callon, all of Natchez.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Vera Daniels Callon; two sons, Sim Chase Callon Jr. and Fred L. Callon and wife, Karen, all of Natchez; six grand-

2010 part 3  
Misc. 7





# The NLCC



## Once again, event delights audiences

### N-Sights staff

The 21st Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration took on the topic of "Humor in the Deep South" and delighted audiences with lectures, films, jokes, stories, music, and other events Feb. 25-28.

Founded and co-sponsored by Co-Lin, the NLCC saw a wide range of literary and film talent travel to Natchez and to Co-Lin to make this year's event a memorable one.

"The 21st annual NLCC was a laugh a minute! We had some of the most entertaining speakers ever. They captivated the large audiences. At the same time, they taught us much about various kinds of humor in the South, from cartoons to comic strips to funny stories and jokes -- to humor found in literature, history and religion," said Carolyn Vance Smith, co-founder and co-chairman.

"The Horton Foote Day was

a special success, with films and programs by people who knew the late, great film script writer and playwright," Smith said. Foote was a celebrated screenwriter and film-maker. One of his long-time friends, actor Gerald McRaney created the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting. McRaney attended the NLCC and presented the award to "Steel Magnolias" screenwriter Robert Harling.

Smith added, "The conference had so many highlights that we left each day exhilarated by what we had learned."

She said, "The NLCC Steering Committee members send deep thanks to everyone who helped make the 2010 NLCC so special. We are already looking forward to next year's conference, Feb. 24-27, 2011. The theme is bound to be

Continued on Page 9



Above, Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles applauds as actor Gerald McRaney prepares to place the medalion around the neck of screenwriter Robert Harling, who was this year's recipient of the Horton Foote Award for Excellence in Screenwriting. Harling's screenplays include "Steel Magnolias," "Soapdish," "First Wives Club" and "Dallas." At right Judy Wiggins, coordinator of Co-Lin's Exporiums and Institute for Learning in Retirement, portrays "Sister" in Endora Welby's story "Why I Live at the P.O."



At left, the opening ceremonies are watched intently by, from left, Carolyn Vance Smith, NLCC co-founder and co-chairman; Co-Lin President Dr. Ronnie Nettles; Vice President of the Natchez campaign Teresa Busby; former Miss. Gov. William F. Winter, director of proceedings; and photographer Dotty Stubbs; above the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award winners Robert S. McElvaine, left, and Steve Yarbrough.

2010 part 3  
M. 46. 9

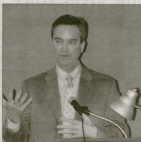




# The NLCC



Student Mark M. LaFrancis and instructor Patricia Lane both were recognized during opening ceremonies as William Winter Scholars from the Natchez campus.



Author Sam Haskell - "Premises I Made My Mother" - and Hollywood agent addressed a full audience Feb. 26 at the Natchez Convention Center.



Author Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., left, of Dillard University in New Orleans, sits with U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., at the Natchez Convention Center Feb. 25. That evening Cochran presented Ward with the U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award. Ward is one of the nation's foremost scholars on Richard Wright.



Political cartoonist Marshall Ramsey of The Clarion-Ledger autographs a drawing for teacher Kathy King during Ramsey's program at Co-Lin's Natchez campus Feb. 28.

## Many events highlight 21st annual celebration

Continued from Page 8

popular. It is "Fields of Dreams: Sports in the South."

A small army of volunteers from the campus participated throughout the event to help make it a success.

Among the highlights:

"A Festive Evening Celebrating the Arts and Humanities" featuring an inspirational talk by Sam Haskell, renowned Hollywood literary agent and author of "Premises I Made My Mother." He was accompanied by his wife Mary Donnelly

Haskell, a talented singer. Introducing them was former Miss America Lydia Moss Shae. The evening included stirring remarks by U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, a long-time NLCC supporter, who presented the Second Annual U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award to Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., of Dillard University, New Orleans, and an acclaimed Richard Wright scholar. Ward

collaborated with Co-Lin to produce the documentary "Richard Wright: A Force for Right" for the 2008 NLCC.

The Richard Wright Library Excellence Awards which were presented to authors Robert S. McElvaine, Jr. of Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., and Steve Yarbrough of Emerson College, Boston, Mass.

Presentations of the play "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" were held at the Natchez Little Theatre.

The premiere of the Co-Lin-produced film "New Year's Fun-

ny! Jokes, Stories and Musings from the Deep South," which features area notables, and a variety of Co-Lin staff members.

Working on the production were Mark LaFrancis, director of public information; Rosamond Doss, secretary in the office of public information, and student Mark M. LaFrancis.

A side-splitting show by famed storyteller Clyde Ray Webber of Vidalia at the Carriage House following the evening of awards Saturday evening Feb. 27.

A comical rendition by Judy Wiggins of the character "Sister" in Eudora Welby's short story "Why I Live at the P.O." at the Natchez Convention Center Thursday, Feb. 25.

Presentation of the William Winter Scholars during the opening ceremonies Thursday, Feb. 25 at the Natchez Convention Center. Representing the Natchez campus were instructor Patricia Lane and student Mark M. LaFrancis.

The Fifth Annual Chocolate Milk Cafe at the Willie Mae Dunn Library Saturday, Feb. 27.

The event entitles youngsters in the Miss-Lous in the fifth and sixth grades reading their original works based on the theme of humor. About 150 attended that event.

Programs by Marshall Ramsey, Pulitzer-Prize finalist and cartoonist for The Clarion-Ledger, at the Natchez Convention Center and Co-Lin Natchez.

A variety of movies, book signings, meals and tours also took place.

2010 part 3  
Mig. 10



# Natchez The Democrat



**BACK TO WORK:** Many state nurses returning. **6A**

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT:** Players love to be under pressure. **1B**

MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com 50¢



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



**Partly cloudy.**

Warm

Hi 81, Lo 61

**6A**

## WHAT'S INSIDE

COMICS/NOVELS 1B

CLASSIFIEDS 3-8B

ENTERTAIN 1A

OPINION 4A

SPORTS 1-2B

TELEVISION 6B

RECORDS 3A

REGION 3A



Lyles

**IS THERE** someone you'd like to nominate for White House? See Natchez feel a call at 601-445-1542 and let us know.

## WHO'S NEWS

Elbert Lyles, Jr., a fifth grade student at Morgantown Elementary School, recently read his original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. He is the son of Elbert and Yolande Lyles Jr.

## HOUSE OF YOUR DREAMS:

With or without the picket fence — in today's classifieds

**5B**



2010 part 3  
Misc. 11

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010



### WHO'S NEWS

Anna McDaniel, a fifth grade student at Adams County Christian School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration. She is the daughter of Cindy and Lloyd McDaniel.

**Anna**

**IS THERE** someone you'd like to nominate for Who's News? Give Hannah Reed a call at 601-445-3562 and let us know.

2010 part 3  
Misc. 12

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2010



#### WHO'S NEWS

Gabby Morace, a sixth grade student at Vidalia Junior High School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. She is the daughter of Katrina and Matthus Morace.

#### Morace

IS THERE someone you'd like to nominate for Who's News? Give Hannah Reed a call at 601-445-3562 and let us know.

2010 part 3  
Misc. 13



# The Natchez Democrat



**GOOD CAUSE:** NHS hosts charity weightlifting competition. **1B**

**BRIGHT FUTURE:** Ross named parish Student of the Year. **3A**

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com 50¢



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



**Cooler,  
partly dowsy**  
H 67, Lc 42

44

## WHAT'S INSIDE

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| COMICS/ADVICE | 58   |
| CLASSIFIEDS   | 4-69 |
| OBITUARIES    | 18   |
| OPINION       | 48   |
| SPORTS        | 1-38 |
| TELEVISION    | 58   |
| RECORDS       | 54   |
| REGION        | 18   |



Simon

**IS THERE** someone you'd like to nominate for Student of the Year? Give Hannah Bell a call at 601-442-1562 and let us know.

## WHO'S NEWS

Darren Simon, a sixth grade student at Vidalia Junior High School, recently read his original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Capital-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. He is the son of Natasha and Richard Walters.

## Truck in your future?

Now or used to fit your budget — find it in today's Classifieds.

46



2010 part 3  
Misc. 14



# The Natchez Democrat



**DISTRICT WIN:** *Vidalia dismantles Jena 13-2. 1B*

**RIDING FOR RELAY:** *ACSO to host motorcycle ride. 3A*

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com 10¢



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



**Full day of sun,  
pleasant**  
Hi 72, Lo 44

8A

## WHAT'S INSIDE

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| COMICS/ADVICE | 1B   |
| CLASSIFIEDS   | 1-8B |
| OBITUARIES    | 1A   |
| OPINION       | 4A   |
| SPORTS        | 1-4B |
| TELEVISION    | 1B   |
| RECORDS       | 1A   |
| REGION        | 1A   |



**Stevens**

**IS THERE someone you'd like to nominate for What's News?** Don't hesitate! Send a call at 601-442-1962 and let us know.

## WHO'S NEWS

Amber Stevens, a fifth grade student at Morgantown Elementary School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. She is the daughter of Jodette and Charles Stevens.

**BLADE RUNNERS** Lawn & Home Care Specialists

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**We Love Leaves!**

2010 part 3  
M: 4.15



# The Democrat



**AT BAT:** Natchez defeats Jim Hill, clinches playoff spot. **1B**

**SUPREME COURT:** Battle ahead for Stevens' replacement. **2A**

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com 10¢



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



**Partly cloudy,  
pleasant**  
Hi 76, Lo 46

6A

## WHAT'S INSIDE

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| COMICS/ADVICE | 1B   |
| CLASSIFIEDS   | 5-6B |
| OBITUARIES    | 1A   |
| WORSHIP       | 1A   |
| SPORTS        | 1-2B |
| TELEVISION    | 1B   |
| RECORDS       | 1A   |
| REGION        | 1A   |



Stewart

IS THERE anyone you'd like to nominate for "Most Read" (the Hannah Reed) call at 601-445-1552 and let us know.

## WHO'S NEWS

Tiah Stewart, a fifth grade student at Morgantown Elementary School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration. She is the daughter of Keith and Michael Stewart.



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2010 part 3  
Misc. 16



# Natchez The Democrat



**VIKINGS VICTORIOUS:** Vidalia gets big district win in 7th inning. **1B**

**COUNTRY COOKIN':** Ferriday restaurant serves it up. **1D**

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2010

[www.natchezdemocrat.com](http://www.natchezdemocrat.com) \$1.50

## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



Mostly sunny,  
delightful  
Hi 77, Lo 50

8A

## WHAT'S INSIDE

|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| CELEBRATIONS | 4C   |
| CLASSIFIEDS  | 2-4D |
| OBITUARIES   | 5A   |
| OPINION      | 4A   |
| SPORTS       | 1-4B |
| TELEVISION   | 5D   |
| RECORDS      | 5A   |
| REGION       | 3A   |



Williams

**IS THERE** someone you'd like to nominate for What's New? Our readers find a call at 601-807-1362 and let us know.

## WHO'S NEWS

Emily Williams, a fifth grade student at Adams County Christian School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. She is the daughter of Pam and Jeff Williams.



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2010 part 3  
Misc. 17





# The <sup>Natchez</sup> Democrat



**SHUTTLE DISCOVERY:** Astronauts take second spacewalk. **6A**

**ON THE GREEN:** Pete Powell wins Harvest Club Open. **1B**

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com 34¢



## WHAT'S OUTSIDE



**Mostly sunny,  
pleasant**  
Hi 81, Lo 52

**6A**

## WHAT'S INSIDE

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| COMICS/ADVICE | 3B   |
| CLASSIFIEDS   | 9-8B |
| ENTERTAINING  | 1A   |
| OPINION       | 4A   |
| SPORTS        | 1-5B |
| TELEVISION    | 6B   |
| RECORDS       | 1A   |
| REGION        | 1A   |



**Williams**

## WHO'S NEWS

Shaylin Williams, a fifth grade student at Morganston Elementary School, recently read her original work at the Chocolate Milk Café, a program of Copiah-Lincoln Community College and the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration. (She is the daughter of Sheila Bradley and Norris Williams.

**IS THERE** someone you'd like to contribute to What's News? Give Hannah Reed a call at 601-440-1562 and let us know.

## Find the Purrfect pet for you.

Four-legged friends are waiting for a new home — in today's Classifieds.



**5B**

2010 part 3  
M. 18

COPIAH-LINCOLN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
NATCHEZ CAMPUS

AWARDS DAY PROGRAM  
April 26, 2010 - 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Dr. Arcola Sullivan

WELCOME

Ms. Teresa A. Busby  
Vice President of the Natchez Campus

CERTIFICATE AND AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Business Student Award Mr. Kenneth Taylor

Business & Marketing Technology Student Award Mrs. Judith Hoard

Business Technology Student Award Mrs. Terry Shatzman

Spanish Student Award Ms. Carol Royale

Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration Mrs. Carolyn Vance Smith

\* Refractive Creative Writing Ms. Emma Blissett

\* N-Sights/Trillium Ms. Mark LaFrambois

Yearbook Dedication Ms. Teresa Busby

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Ivita Epsilon Chi Mrs. Judith Hoard

Phi Beta Lambda Mrs. Sue Savino

Phi Theta Kappa Ms. Kenneth Taylor  
Mrs. Nancy McLemore

Student Government Association Mrs. Nan McGee

SCHOLARSHIPS

United Mississippi Bank Scholarship

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Ms. Teresa Busby  
Mrs. Gwen McCally  
Mr. Kenneth Taylor

Gene and Sister Bates Scholarship

Thomas Waring "Buddy" Bennett, Jr. Scholarship

Dean James Gibson Memorial Scholarship

F. Kenneth McCally Memorial Scholarship

Annette West Denson Memorial Scholarship

Honey Cameron Hudkey & Mary Lindsay Lehmann Hudkey Scholarship Fund

Sherryn W. McDonald Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Joey H. Paul Memorial Scholarship

Copiah-Lincoln Community College Foundation Scholarship

E. A. Reid Memorial Scholarship

State Farm Endowment Scholarship

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Phi Theta Kappa/All-USA Academic Team Awards  
Mr. Kenneth Taylor  
Mrs. Nancy McLemore

\* Trailblazer Recognition  
Mrs. Nancy McFarland  
Mrs. Fannie White

\* Student of the Month Recognition  
Ms. Brett Brinegar

\* Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges  
Mr. James Wiggles

\* President's Council  
Dr. Ronald E. Nettles  
President

Hall of Fame  
Dr. Ronald E. Nettles  
President

CLOSING REMARKS

Ms. Teresa A. Busby  
Vice President of the Natchez Campus

\* Standing Recognition—student to pick up award from presenter immediately after the program

2010 part 3  
MISC. 19

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

## OUR OPINION

## Country is indebted to tragic fire

**A**s the oldest European settlement on the Mississippi River, Natchez has experienced several key tragic events in its nearly 300-year history.

Such events range from the massacre of early French settlers by the Natchez in 1728 and the subsequent war on the Natchez to the most surprising and unpreventable, the tragic tornado that ripped apart the city in 1940, reportedly killing more than 300 people.

That tornado still ranks the second most deadly in United States history. But perhaps the most tragic event for our community, and the least well known for people outside of Natchez, was the Rhythm Night Club fire, which killed at least 200 Natchez residents in 1949.

It's most tragic for several reasons. First, it claimed the lives of a generation of Natchez's young blacks. Their potential was cut short, well ahead of their prime.

But the fire was most tragic because of the factors around the fire and the seemingly preventable nature of the fire.

A club decorated with flammeo Spanish moss and a lack of adequate emergency exits made the Rhythm Night Club a death trap.

Although we may not ever know the potential impact the 200 souls may have had on our community if their lives had not been cut short, we do know the impact their tragic deaths had on the world around us.

The deadly fire helped to change our country's attitudes about building and fire codes, which were lax prior to the fire and have been improved since.

For that, our community, perhaps even our country, will be indebted to the lives lost in the Rhythm Night Club fire. And for that, we should always remember them with memorials such as the ones our community had this week end.

## Literary celebration was a success

**W**onderful, generous compliments continue to pour in for the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinematography celebration on Feb. 25-26.

Perhaps the most outstanding praise has just arrived. It came from the official evaluator of the conference, Dr. Cynthia Scaria, chairman of the English Department at Alcorn State University.

Dr. Scaria was invited to attend and write an official NLLC evaluation for the Mississippi Humanities Council, which annually helps fund the conference. This year's MHCC grant totaled \$5,000.

Dr. Scaria's evaluation states, "A major strength of the program is its broad appeal. The project attracts a wide spectrum of people and provides a welcoming and comfortable venue for sharing and discussing the humanities."

"This appeal is due in part to the well-struck balance between what one might consider academic and more general interest topics," she wrote. "I overheard many favorable remarks from a group of out-of-town attendees discussing how much they had enjoyed the entire event."

Dr. Scaria attended the conference for one day, Saturday, Feb. 27. She wrote, "The day's program—including an actress, an actor, an author and a professor from University of Southern Mississippi—provided a nice balance of personal narrative and scholarly information."

"The program was well designed. Gerald McRaney talked about his relationship with Horton Foote, which was fitting as Saturday had been designated Horton Foote Day. This is but one example of the good organization and coordination that was evident throughout the day."

"The program was also well attended; audience members asked questions and participated in the discussion."

"Jane Feltus Welch seemed to be a particular favorite; she was well spoken, funny and charismatic, and she gave a vivid portrayal of her life as an actress, especially in talking about casting calls. Not only was her own life story interesting, but she also successfully used her experience to make broader points about acting as a career."

"My favorite presentation was Professor (Scott Dixon) McDonnell's speech and documentary. He is very knowledgeable about Horton Foote. I found the documentary to be fascinating, and I learned a great deal about Foote's realistic naturalistic style of filmmaking. (Afterward, I even called my son, who is completing his MFA in theater, to talk to him about Foote.)"

Dr. Scaria continued, "I did not note any



**TOP OF THE MORNING**  
Karlye Vance Smith

weaknesses in the project. My impression is that the project is well conceived and well executed; after 21 years, it is thoroughly woven into the fabric of Natchez's cultural life."

Perhaps the highest compliment Dr. Skaggs paid the NLLC was her final statement. "If other Mississippi communities are interested in hosting an annual arts festival the Natchez Literary and Cinematography could serve as a model," she said.

All these compliments to the NLLC would not be possible without the loyal support of the entire Natchez community. This year's theme, "Humor in the Deep South," was one of the most popular ever, attracting hundreds of people each day. They attended more than 30 dozen programs, films, a play writing workshop, a bookshop, exhibits, book signings and social events.

The monthly free NLLC is sponsored by Coah-Linech Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Additional support comes from the City of Natchez, the Adams County Board of Supervisors, the Natchez-Adams Public School System, Mississippi Film Office, foundations, banks, businesses, corporations, individuals and local clubs.

My co-chairmen, Jim Barnett of MDAH, Kathleen Jenkins of NNHP and Sherry Johnson of MPB, join me in giving thanks to the community for helping the NLLC to be such a success. Donations of money, time, goods, advice and expertise, housing and other assistance make the conference a world-class event.

We enjoy our work on the NLLC, but it is made more enjoyable by having steadfast friends who help us.

We look forward to the 22nd annual conference, which will use the theme, "Fields of Dreams: Sports in the South." Save the dates: Feb. 24-27, 2011. In September, the full conference agenda will be posted on the Website, [www.nllc.edu.na](http://www.nllc.edu.na). Plan now to attend.

As always, we need your help. Just call us at 601-446-1288 or e-mail [NLLC@coahlinech.edu](mailto:NLLC@coahlinech.edu).

We want wonderful compliments to continue next year, but they can't happen without you.

We look forward to working on one more project that all of Natchez can be proud of.

KARLYE VANCE SMITH is the co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinematography celebration.

## Social media is not new to newspaper

**E**very person likes to feel connected to the world around them. It's human nature.

In the last few years, social media Web sites have become extremely popular as they use technology to help us find more connected to our "friends" and "followers."

Today 8-year-olds, pets and grandmothers have Facebook accounts.

A few might even Twitter—except perhaps the dogs.

It is a bit amazing that through a computer you can reach out and almost instantly connect to people you've not seen in decades.

But as cool as some of the social media sites are, many people have forgotten something key: It's not the technology involved, it's the connections with people that matter most.

A week or so ago, our Web editor Ben Hillier

and I were guests of the Trace City Kiwanis Club.

As part of our talk, we gave an overview of all of the things The Democrat does—including a bit of history and how we use technology today.

After the talk it occurred to me that we've been in the social media business since our very earliest days.

The newspaper's beginning came at the hands of a young man who came to America at age 7 and grew up in Natchez before heading to fight for the Confederacy in the Civil War.

In 1865, Italian immigrant Paul Botto returned home, simply looking for a way to earn a living in the economically shattered South.

The term social media would not be coined for another 140



**KEVIN COOPER**  
Publisher

2010 part 3  
Misc 20

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

## Literary celebration was a success

**W**onderful, generous compliments continue to pour in for the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration on Feb. 25-28.

Perhaps the most outstanding praise has just arrived. It came from the official evaluator of the conference, Dr. Cynthia Scurria, chairman of the English Department at Alcorn State University.

Dr. Scurria was invited to attend and write an official NLCC evaluation for the Mississippi Humanities Council, which annually helps fund the conference. This year's MHC grant totaled \$5,000.

Dr. Scurria's evaluation states, "A major strength of the program is its broad appeal. The project attracts a wide spectrum of people and provides a welcoming and comfortable venue for sharing and discussing the humanities."

"Its appeal is due in part to the well-struck balance between what one might consider academic and more general interest topics," she wrote. "I overheard many favorable remarks (from) a group of out-of-town attendees discussing how much they had enjoyed the entire event."

Dr. Scurria attended the conference for one day Saturday, Feb. 27. She wrote, "The day's program — including an actress, an actor, an author and a professor from University of Southern Mississippi — provided a nice balance of personal narrative and scholarly information."

"The program was well designed. Gerald McRaney talked about his relationship with Horton Foote, which was fitting as Saturday had been designated Horton Foote Day. This is but one example of the good organization and coordination that were evident throughout the day."

"The program was also well attended; audience members asked questions and participated in the discussion."

"Jane Feltus Welch seemed to be a particular favorite; she was well spoken, funny and charismatic, and she gave a vivid portrayal of her life as an actress, especially in talking about casting calls. Not only was her own life story interesting, but she also successfully used her experience to make broader points about acting as a career."

"My favorite presentation was Professor (Scott Dixon) McDowell's speech and documentary. He is very knowledgeable about Horton Foote. I found the documentary to be fascinating, and I learned a great deal about Foote's realistic/naturalistic style of filmmaking. (Afterward, I even called my son, who is completing his MFA in theater, to talk to him about Foote.)"

Dr. Scurria continued, "I did not note any



**TOP OF THE MORNING**  
Carolyn Vance Smith

weaknesses in the project. My impression is that the project is well-conceived and well-executed; after 21 years, it is thoroughly woven into the fabric of Natchez's cultural life."

Perhaps the highest compliment Dr. Scurria said the NLCC was her final statement.

"If other Mississippi communities are interested in hosting an annual arts festival the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration could serve as a model," she said.

All these compliments to the NLCC would not be possible without the loyal support of the entire Natchez community.

This year's theme, "Humor in the Deep South," was one of the most popular ever, attracting hundreds of people each day. They attended more than three dozen programs, films, a play, writing workshops, a bookshop, exhibits, book signings and social events.

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**KEVIN COOPER**  
Publisher

# EXHIBIT: NAPAC museum tour caps of day off NLCC for locals, visitors alike Friday

FROM PAGE 1A

believe what they see on TV, but this is the actual thing."

Kye Handy, a sophomore at Tougaloo College, said she enjoyed her viewing of the approximately 300-piece collection.

"I have never seen anything like this," Handy said. "And seeing how much detail they put in it, it is really impressive."

As an art student, Tougaloo freshman Bradley Hammond said he could appreciate a look at this culture.

"I think it is very powerful that such a culture, so long ago, was



SEN. WRIGHT (L)  
SEN. WRIGHT  
Charles  
Shows  
from Biloxi  
walks past  
an exhibit  
of Rich-  
ard Wright  
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able to create such works of art," Hammond said.

The way the West Africans

used metal and wood alike, shows how sophisticated their art venues were, Zachary resident Don

Fonte said.

"I am a collector myself of African masks," he said. "I can appreciate their concern in detailing the human form above the shoulders."

Fonte said it was the largest collection of its type that he had ever seen.

The whole NAPAC Museum was refreshing, said Mississippi State University Senior Ryan Bankston.

"Most museums are not as authentic as this," he said. "Local African-Americans have been dedicated to collecting these pieces for Natchez and for the future."

2010 part 3  
Misc. 22

Smith, Carolyn Vance

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From: Nemes, Ronnie  
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2010 9:13 AM  
To: Colin Everyone  
Subject: Board Update - February 2010

The Co-Lin Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting on Thursday, February 4. A summary of actions taken by the Board include:

- Heard a report from the Board Budget Committee on actions taken by the administration in FY 10 to deal with significant budget cuts and options for dealing with possible additional cuts in FY 11.
- Announced that the March 4, 2010, Board meeting will be held at the Simpson County Center at noon.
- Heard a report on student recruitment and retention for fall 2009.
- Heard a report on academic overload payments. Because of increased enrollment and the need for our full time and adjunct faculty to teach more classes, the overload payments are increasing 15 to 20 % each semester.
- Heard a report on spring enrollment. Unaudited numbers indicate another significant enrollment increase at all campuses.
- Heard a report on the 2010 Bellwether Award Finalist recognition received by Dr. Kevin McKone. The Board approved a motion to send a letter of commendation to Dr. McKone.
- Approved an authorizing resolution for \$740,000.00 bond issue to secure a loan for Health Science Building furnishings at the Natchez Campus.
- Approved and and/or ratified purchase orders over \$5,000.00.
- Approved and/or ratified sole source purchases.
- Heard a report on the completed FY' 07 financial audit for the college.
- Authorized the Administration to advertise for bids for new lighting equipment for Rea Auditorium and Fine Arts Auditorium at the Wesson Campus.
- Heard a report on Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality citation and the completion of actions required. (this involved moving gas pumps at the Wesson Campus to above ground)
- Heard a report on cafeteria plumbing project (more on this later).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010

## OUR REGRETS

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** A Top of the Morning published Tuesday contained incorrect information. Natchez Little Theatre's production of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24. Tickets are \$15, and are still available for shows on Wednesday and Thursday. Also, a Top of the Morning's author Wednesday was incorrectly labeled. Barbara Blackmon was the author of the article about the Natchez Business and Civic League. We regret the errors and are happy to set the record straight.



*ence may lead to arrest. 3A*

2010 part 3  
Misc. 24

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

# OPINION

## Natchez has the best little WHAT?

**G**reetings Natchez and the Miss Lou! It may come as a shock to you all, but it's true! Natchez has a wherehouse and it's "The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas" at Natchez Little Theatre Feb. 24-28, at 219 Linton Ave. at Maple Street. This popular romp's attempt at country musical comedy is produced in cooperation with the **Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration**.

"The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas" is an utterly charming, humorous, lively and good-natured musical with book by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson and music and lyrics by Carol Hall.

This happy-go-lucky view of small-town vice and statewide political side-stepping recounts the good times and the demise of the Chicken Ranch, known since the 1890s as one of the better pleasure palaces in all of Texas.

Governors, senators, mayors and even victorious college football teams frequent Miss Mona's cory bordello until that puritan nemesis Watchdog focuses his television cameras and this righteous indignation on the institution.

Directed by Tonney Jackson with musical direction by Darlene McCune, choreography by Leigh Anne Mason and sets by Don Vesterse, the band consists of Darlene McCune, Casey Gilbert, George Piazza, Bob Sizemore, Shawn Smith and Larry Buckley.

"The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas" has a stellar cast that is eager to please. Starring as Miss Mona is Ginger Hyland and as Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd is Chris Cavetto. Erika Johnson portrays Jewel with James Wesley Forde as Melvin P. Thorpe or Bulldog. The Governor is Bo Allen; Sen. Wingroah is Mike Thomas and Laurie Williams is Dootsey May.

The rest of this talented cast portrays Miss Mona's Girls, the Aggie Football



**TOP  
OF  
THE  
MORNING**  
Layne  
Taylor

Team and the good people of Lumbville County Texas. Many portray numerous roles in the ensemble production and they are Lou Ellen Scout, Hester Rose Brown, Leigh Anne Mason, Debbie Boykin, Althea Stewart, Janelle Williams, Danielle Thornton, Rachel Lindsay, Katie Sanderson, Dot Vesterse, Trey Price, Stacey Carden, Darryl V. Grennell, Dwight Williams, Jason Dauphin, Holden Braswell, Moe LeBlanc, Eric Barbato

and Zachary Robinson.

There will be a benefit preview performance for the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, for which tickets are \$10.

The opening night on Thursday, Feb. 25, is sold out to the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration.

Tickets still remain for the 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening shows, Feb. 26 and 27 and for the 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, matinee and all tickets are \$15.

Reservations are highly recommended due to advance ticket sales.

For reservations and information contact NLT at 601-442-2233; toll free at 1-877-440-2233; or online at [www.natcheztheatre.org](http://www.natcheztheatre.org). So, as shocking as it may sound, I hope to see you at "The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas" at Natchez Little Theatre!

Natchez Little Theatre and "The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas" are partially funded by the Mississippi Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts as well as local sponsors.

**LAYNE TAYLOR** is the artistic and executive director of the Natchez Little Theatre.

2010 part 3  
Misc. 25



# Three added to NLCC lineup

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ**—Three additional people have joined the lineup of the 2010 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration since the agenda was announced in the fall of 2009. The 21st annual conference is set for Feb. 25-28. The theme is "Humor in the Deep South."

New presenters are film and television actor Gerald McRaney of Collins and Los Angeles, humorist Clyde Ray Webber of Ferriday and local actress Judy Daniels Wiggins of Natchez.

McRaney, known for his roles on the television programs, "Major Dad" and "Simon and Simon," will speak on "Horton Foote: The Man That I Knew" at 3:15 p.m., Feb. 27.

His program is part of a day-long series of programs and films honoring Foote, who died in 2009 at age 92. Foote was winner of two Academy Awards and a Pulitzer Prize for his screenplays, including "To Kill a Mockingbird," and his stage play "The Young Man from Atlanta."

McRaney, who has long admired Foote and his works, recently starred in Foote's Broadway play "Dividing the Estate."

McRaney's program is taking the slot previously

## THE DETAILS

Actor Gerald McRaney, humorist Clyde Ray Webber and local actress Judy Wiggins have been added to the list of presenters at the 21st annual **NATCHEZ LITERARY AND CINEMA CELEBRATION** Feb. 25-28. For more information on NLCC visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) or call 866-296-6522.

held by the author Rebecca Wells, who cannot attend the NLCC because of personal reasons.

Webber, who has been Clerk of Court in Concordia Parish, for more than 35 years, has a following of people who love to laugh. His programs and CDs keep him on the road, entertaining groups of all ages.

"I am a graduate of Louisiana College, where I finished in the quarter of the class that made the upper three quarters possible," he says.

Webber will present his humorous program, "A Visit to the Boneyard," after dinner Feb. 27 at the Carriage House restaurant. The dinner is part of an evening that benefits the NLCC. Cost of the evening is \$135, with \$100 tax-deductible.

Wiggins, recently retired as an English instructor at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, is an amateur actress with credits at Natchez Little Theatre and at the 2009 NLCC. This year she will appear at the NLCC in a cameo role as "Sister," the narrator in Eudora Welty's story, "Why I Live at the P.O."

The story, considered by scholars to be Welty's funniest, is set in the 1850s. Wiggins will dress as "Sister" and appear during a program by Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp of Danville, Ky.

The program, set for 2:30 p.m., Feb. 25, at the Convention Center, is called "Double Names, Corruption Fits and 'Kiss My Foot': Laughing at Ourselves with Eudora Welty and Other Southerners." The program will be repeated at 5 p.m. that day. Information about the conference is available at [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) or by calling 866-296-6522 or by emailing [NLCC@colin.edu](mailto:NLCC@colin.edu).

The NLCC is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Partial funding comes from the Mississippi Humanities Council.

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Photo Submitted

Karen Gilfoy, Jane Petty, Eudora Welty and Patti Carr Black, all of Jackson, enjoy a laugh in Oxford in 1977. Photograph by Reynolds Price from the Patti Carr Black Collection.

## 21st literary, cinema fest set for Feb. 25-28

NATCHEZ — "Humor in the Deep South" is the theme of the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will take place Feb. 25-28, 2010, in Natchez.

"This conference couldn't come at a better time," said NLCC Founder and Co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith, of Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Natchez.

"Several years ago, when the theme of Southern humor was chosen for 2010, we had no idea we'd really need to laugh right now," she said.

"With the state and national economy as it is, and with so many other serious pressures all around us, the conference will let us slow down, laugh a little and leave refreshed," she said.

The Olympic Award-winning conference will feature four jam-packed days. Programs will be by some of America's most outstanding authors, historians and film experts. Program topics, speakers and titles of their books include:

- "Damn, Brother, I Don't Believe I'd 'a Told That: Or Why Being a Southerner May Be a Laughing Matter, After All," James C. Cobb, University of Georgia, author of *The Most Southern Place on Earth: The Mississippi Delta and the Roots of Regional Identity*

### NATCHEZ

- "The Importance of the Arts and the Humanities," U.S. Senator Thad Cochran (R-Miss), a longtime supporter of education, the arts and the humanities

- "Little Old Ladies and the Last Word: An Exploration of Sassiness and Risque Behavior in African American Folklore," Trudier Harris, the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, author of *From Mammies to Militants: Domesticity in Black American Literature*; *Saints, Sinners, Saviors: Strong Black Women in African American Literature*; and *Fiction and Folklore: The Novels of Toni Morrison*

- Vocal concert from "Inspired: Inspirational Standards Good for the Soul" by Mary Donnelly Haskell, Oxford, Miss., and Los Angeles, a Martingale recording artist

- "What Would George Bailey Do: How to Have a Wonderful Life!" Sam Haskell, Oxford, Miss., and Los Angeles, author of the best-selling *Promises I Made My Mother*, former Vice President and Worldwide head of Television for the William Morris Agency, Los Angeles, and now Miss America Board chairman

2010 part 3  
Misc. 27

# Humor in the Deep South

21st Annual Natchez Literary and  
Cinema Celebration

Feb. 24-28, 2010

Headquarters:

Natchez Convention Center

All daytime events are free of charge!

Tickets are available for evening Events:

Wednesday and Thursday, February 24-25

"Best Little Whorehouse in Texas,"

Natchez Little Theatre \$15

Friday, February 26

Remarks by Sen. Thad Cochran, Dr. Jerry Ward,  
best-selling author Sam Haskell, vocalist Mary Haskell,  
Natchez's own Miss America, Lynda Mead Shea,  
with reception after at historic Greenlea \$10

Saturday, February 27

Benefit gala champagne reception at Stanton Hall,  
dinner at the Carriage House honoring award winners  
and speakers, and humor by Clyde Ray Webber  
\$135 (\$100 tax-deductible)

For tickets and information:

Call 601-446-1289 or

toll free 866-296-6522

Email NLCC@colin.edu

Visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)



2010 part 3  
M: 96. 28

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

# OPINION

## Come laugh with us for celebration

**G**et ready to laugh! The 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration opens this week with five days devoted to laughter and fun. More than three dozen educational programs, films and discussion sessions follow the theme, "Humor in the Deep South." Two pre-conference events take place Wednesday, with the majority of the conference set for Thursday through Sunday.

Headquarters will be the Natchez Convention Center, where most programs take place. On Sunday, free writing workshops will take place at Copiah Lincoln Community College.

Throughout, you will smile, giggle and laugh while exploring all kinds of humor, from slapstick to comic strips to satire and to all humorous points in between.

The best part is that all daytime events are absolutely free of charge. You don't have to register to attend. Simply walk through the door at the Convention Center daily beginning at 9 a.m.

Evening events cost \$30 or \$15, and the only fundraiser of the year for the NLCC costs \$35, with \$300 of that tax-deductible.

Plan now to take advantage of this world-class conference, founded by Copiah-Lincoln Community College and now sponsored by Co-Lin, the Natchez National Historical Park, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

How about a free movie that's bound to make you laugh, though you might shed a tear or two?

Yes, in cooperation with Natchez Mall Cinema, "Steel Magnolias" will be shown free of charge at Natchez Mall Cinema on Thursday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. You need a ticket because of limited seating. The author of "Steel Magnolias," Robert Harling, will speak at the NLCC at 4:30 p.m., Saturday.

How about a musical comedy to lift your spirits?

Yes, in cooperation with the Natchez Little Theatre, that rollicking musical comedy, "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," will be performed at the theater at 7 p.m. Wednesday and at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Tickets cost \$15. Proceeds from these two performances benefit the NLCC.



**TOP  
OF THE  
MORNING**  
Carolyn Vance  
Smith

How about an incredible evening extravaganza at the Convention Center at 1:00 p.m., Friday?

The event features U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, Dillard University scholar Jerry W. Ward Jr., best-selling author Sam Haskoll, vocalist Mary Haskoll and Natchez's own Miss America Lydia Lee Mead Sims, with a party afterward at historic Greenies, all for \$10.

How about the memory of a lifetime at Stanton Hall and the Carriage House? At

6 p.m., Saturday a limited number of people will enjoy a champagne reception and seated dinner with NLCC award winners and speakers. The dinner is based on "Steel Magnolias," and, yes, the groom's cake in the shape of an armadillo will be served!

After dinner you will laugh out loud with humorist Clyde Ray Webber of Ferriday. Tickets cost \$135, with \$100 tax-deductible.

In addition to those mentioned, the Olympic Award-winning NLCC also features such stars as the actor Gerald McInaney; the actress Jane Feltus Welch; the authors Clifton Taulbert, JoAnne Prychard Morris and Deana Williams; the historians James C. Cobb, Charles Reagan Wilson of The University of Mississippi, John Mayfield of Samford University, M. Thomas Inge of Randolph-Macon College and Robert S. McKeirne of Millsaps College; the cartoonist Marshall Ramsey; and scholars Trudier Harris of the University of North Carolina, Scott Dixon McDowell of the University of Southern Mississippi, Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp of Danville, Ky., Steve Yarbrough of Emerson College and Gerald Wood of Carson-Newman College.

Hurry! All tickets are going fast. E-mail Patricia.Knight@colin.edu or call her at 601-446-2280 or toll-free 866-296-6022. To see the entire program lineup, visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

Be a part of what evaluators call the best humanities/arts conference in the South. See you at the NLCC!

CAROLYN VANCE SMITH is the founder and co-chairman of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration.

2010 Nov 13  
M: 66. 29

# Copiah—Lincoln Community College

11 Co-Lin Circle Natchez, MS 39120



## **"Laugh Matters: A Look at Humor through a Cultural Lens"**

Nelson Multipurpose Room  
Wednesday, February 24, 2010  
11 am

Program sponsored by Student Support Services & The Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

**"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter"~ E.E. Cummings**

2010 part 3  
M: 9C. 30



## Haskell to tell story at Natchez Literary Celebration

BY VERNAL HOGAN  
THE NATCHEZ ADAMANT

**ADAMANT** — A Mississippi boy once went to Hollywood. He became successful, but — thanks to the advice his mother gave him — he was able to keep his soul in the process.

Sam Haskell, the author of the nationally best-selling "Everless I Made My Mother," will be the featured speaker at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's "A Festive Evening Celebrating the Arts and the Humanities," starting at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

"He grew up in Amory, Miss., went to Ole Miss and met and married Mary Donnelly and they went to seek their fortune in Hollywood," NLCC Co-chair Carolyn Vance Smith said.

"His story is like something from the movies — he started out at the bottom in the mailroom at the William Morris talent agency, the biggest talent agency in the world, and he worked his way up very quickly to Worldwide Head Television (for the agency)."

While working for the William Morris agency, Haskell's clients included George Clooney, Bill Cosby, Dolly Parton, Ray Romano, Lily Tomlin and Prince Edward, among others.

He also oversaw the packaging of network television projects the agency represented, including "The Cosby Show," "Fresh Prince of Bel Air," "Mad About You," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Murphy Brown," "Sisters," "Suddenly Susan," "Live with Regis & Kathie Lee," "Diagnosis Murder," "King of Queens," "Las Vegas," "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire," and "Lost."

His book is based on his experiences from small town life to life in Hollywood, Smith said.

"It is based on living the principles his mother taught him while he was in the viper's den," she said. "There were so many pressures for a Mississippi boy in Beverly Hills, Calif., and he succeeded by staying true to the fundamental Christian beliefs he was raised with and his wife shares."

He is currently the chairman of the board for the Miss America Organization, and will be introduced by Natchez native and former Miss America Lynda Missal Shaw.

"(Haskell) is the kind of speaker who mesmer-

izes the audience, the kind you are sitting on the edge of your seat listening to," Smith said.

Haskell's wife, Mary Donnelly Haskell, is a former Miss Mississippi, and through that connection they became friends with Shaw.

Following Haskell's speech, Mary Donnelly-Haskell will present a vocal concert.

"She recently recorded with the Prague Symphony Orchestra, she is of that caliber," Smith said.

The evening will also feature comments by U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran.

"He is a long-time champion of the arts in the Congress, and he really likes this conference and he really loves Natchez," Smith said.

After Cochran's comments, Dillard University professor Jerry W. Ward Jr. will be presented the 2010 Thad Cochran Humanities Award for his work with the NLCC.

"Ward came up every month for a year and led a reading thinking discussion about Richard Wright," Smith said.

Haskell and Ward will be signing books and Donnelly-Haskell will be signing CDs after the ceremony Friday.

The Haskell's will be donating proceeds from their sales to the NLCC, Smith said.

Later, a gala reception will follow at Greenlee, and the proceeds of the evening will go to the Chocolate Milk Cafe, a writing thinking program that collects and publishes the poetry and writing of elementary-age children, Smith said.

"These young children amaze you with their ability to think and write," she said. "Then they get to autograph their book, and it is quite exciting for them and their parents."

The cost for the Friday event is \$50.

To purchase tickets with a credit card, call 601-446-1289 or toll free at 866-286-6522.

To use PayPal, e-mail [businessoffice@colin.edu](mailto:businessoffice@colin.edu), or to buy tickets online, visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

The conference begins Thursday and runs through Sunday.

Other NLCC events include:

• Screenings of the film "Steel Magnolias," one at 2:30 p.m. and the second at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Natchez Mall Cinema.

• At 5 p.m. Friday will be the grand opening of the Richard Wright Exhibit Hall and Finley Collection of West African Art at the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture Museum. The exhibit will cost \$10 at the door.

• At 4:30 p.m. Saturday, the NLCC will have its annual Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards ceremony.

• At 6 p.m. Saturday, a gala benefit reception at Stanton Hall to honor award winners and speakers. Tickets for the reception are \$135, \$50 of which will be tax deductible.

### NLCC SCHEDULE

#### TONIGHT

7 p.m. — The Natchez Little Theatre will perform "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" (515, 601-446-1289 for tickets)

#### THURSDAY

9 a.m. — Welcome and introductions at the Natchez Convention Center

9:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. — Sessions at convention center

2:30 p.m. — Screening of "Steel Magnolias" at Natchez Mall Cinema

7:30 p.m. — "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at NLJ

#### FRIDAY

9 a.m. — Concurrent program for high school faculty from Natchez

9 a.m. — Sessions begin at convention center

11:50 a.m. — Book signing by Don Estes, M. Thomas Inge, Mark LaFrambo and John Mayfield in convention center lobby

2:30 p.m. — Panel discussion

5 p.m. — Grand opening of Richard Wright Exhibit Hall and Finley Collection of West African Art at NAAPAC Museum on Main Street (515 at the door)

7:30 p.m. — Evening celebration featuring Sam and Mary Donnelly-Haskell among others

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## BEST LITTLE CAST



JENNIFER PERRY

The cast and band for "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" will take the stage at 7 p.m. today as a benefit for the **Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration**. Tickets for Thursday night's 7-10 show are available by calling the NLCC at 601-446-1289. The show continues at NLT Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., with a final 2 p.m. Sunday matinee. Tickets are \$15 and should be reserved to guarantee seats by calling NLT at 601-442-2233; toll free at 1-877-440-2233 or online at [www.natcheztheatre.org](http://www.natcheztheatre.org). Tickets are limited. Appearing in the production directed by Tommy Jackson are from left, front row, Erika Johnson as Jewel; James Welsey Forde as Melvin P. Thorpe; Ginger Hyland as Mona and Chris Cavette as Sheriff Ed Earl Doddie; second row, Bob Sizemore on bass; Darlene McCune, keyboard/musical director; George Piazza, percussion and Casey Gilbert, guitar; standing on the platform, Mike Thomas; Hester Rose Brown; Janelle Williams; Jason Dauphin; Zachary Robinson; Debbie Boykin; Stacey Carden; Rachel Lindsay; Don Vesterse; Danielle Thornton; Darryl V. Greenell; Leigh Anne Mason; Trey Price; Katie Sanderson; Eric Barbato; Alethea Shelton; Lou Ellen Stout and Moe LeBlanc. NLT is located at 319 Linton Ave. in historic Natchez.

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M:GC.32

# OPINION

4A THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

www.natchezdemocrat.com

FROM FEBRUARY 26, 2010

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

## OUR OPINION

### Come on down for a good laugh

Did you hear the one about the possum, the skunk and the squirrel going into a bar together? Or did you hear the one about the redneck trying to turn his truck into an airplane?

Just think about how many smiles and laughs have started from just such silly intros to jokes and funny stories.

#### Southerners

enjoy a good  
sense of  
humor better  
than any  
other place on  
earth.

Perhaps, next to good food, Southerners enjoy a good sense of humor better than any other place on earth.

Almost every family has the clown, that crazy uncle who torments the children with his sarcastic wit at family reunions.

That tradition of Deep South humor is on stage this weekend at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's 21st annual event.

Titled, "Humor in the Deep South," this year's celebration truly offers something for everyone and the delightful programs on the agenda are sure to bring a smile to your face and perhaps a great big belly laugh or two as well.

Natchez and the rest of the Miss-Lou is lucky to be home to the NLCC. For more than two decades the event has brought well-known scholars, authors and filmmakers to Natchez.

With each of those, come tax dollars right along with the good times and the laughs.

Best of all though most of the NLCC's events — particularly the lectures — are free of charge and open to the public. For a complete agenda, visit [www.colia.edu/nlcc](http://www.colia.edu/nlcc).

Trust us, this year's event is certain to tickle your funny bone and enrich your mind a bit in the process, too.

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# The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copeiah-Lincoln Community College  
Natchez National Historical Park  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1307  
Natchez, MS 39121-1307  
Phone 601-446-1208; Fax 601-446-1214  
Toll-Free 866-296-6522  
E-mail Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu  
Website [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

The Olympic Award-winning NLCC  
PROUDLY PRESENTS ITS 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## ***HUMOR IN THE DEEP SOUTH***

**February 25-28, 2010**

Natchez Convention Center near the river in historic downtown Natchez, Mississippi

- Programs by America's leading authors, historians, and film experts
- The play, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, at Natchez Little Theatre
- Writing awards ceremonies honoring outstanding authors
- Premiere of a documentary film, *Horton Foote: Regional Voice, Universal Vision*
- Screening of *Steel Magnolias* and *The Trip to Bountiful*
- Book signings and refreshment breaks with the speakers
- Writing workshops
- Receptions and meals
- Music and exhibits

**WITH LOTS OF LAUGHS AND FUN!  
MOST OF THIS CONFERENCE IS FREE!**

For more information: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

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**SIGN-UP SHEET TO ASSIST WITH THE 2010 Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration,  
Feb. 24-28, 2010.**

**Please check your response.**

**Yes, I can do this.**

- Help set up at the Natchez Convention Center Wed., Feb. 24 \_\_\_\_\_
- Help take down at the Convention Center Sat. evening, Feb. 27 \_\_\_\_\_
- Act as usher/host/hostess Thurs., Feb. 25, Natchez Convention Center
  - 8:30-10:30 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
- Act as usher/host/hostess Fri., Feb. 26, Natchez Convention Center
  - 8:30-10:30 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3-5 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 7-9 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
- Act as usher/host/hostess Sat., Feb. 27, Natchez Convention Center
  - 8:30-11 a.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1 p.m.-3 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3-5:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 5:30-8 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_
- Drive a Co-Lin car to the Baton Rouge airport on Sun. morning, Feb. 28, to return a speaker. \_\_\_\_\_

Please print your name on the line below. We'll be in touch with you about duties and tickets.

Deadline to respond to this request is Friday, Feb. 12, 2010. Please make a copy of this completed form for your records, and send original to Carolyn Vance Smith by fax at 601-446-1214, by email to [Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu), or by putting the form in the NLCC box in the faculty office boxes in the Tom Reed Building.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

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The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration  
February 25 - 28, 2010

*presents*

# HUMOR IN THE DEEP SOUTH



**Headquarters:**

**Natchez Convention Center**

**211 Main Street • Natchez, Mississippi**

*Unless otherwise noted, all events are free.*

*Locations change for certain events.*

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**NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY**

**MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC BROADCASTING**

*With partial funding from the*

**MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL**

**Director of Proceedings: William F. Winter, President Emeritus,  
Board of Trustees, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson**

2010 part 3  
U:4C.36



# HORTON FOOTE

Regional Voice/Universal Vision

A by film

Scott Dixon McDowell

date  
**2/27/10**

location  
**NATCHEZ  
CIVIC CENTER**

time  
**9:00 A.M.**

This pre-release screening is presented in connection with the 2010  
Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration...

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BY VERNAL HOGAN  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

**VIDALIA** — It has fallen below flood stage, but the seasonally high Mississippi River is causing some problems to local infrastructure.

The river is expected to stand at 42.9 feet this morning, more than 10 feet above the historic average level

for the river at this time of year.

According to information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the historic stage for this date is approximately 32 feet.

The high river water has pushed into the groundwater table, which has in turn worked its way through fissures in the aging sewer

main on the north side of Vidalia, Utility Director Mark Morace said.

To address the problems caused by the excess water in the sewer, the city has created a temporary, above-ground force main connected to a temporary sewer lift station to help relieve the pressure on the system.

The bright blue pipes run

along Linden Street, down Louisiana Avenue and across Martin Luther King Jr. Drive to Miller Street, where the lift station is located, Morace said.

The pipes go temporarily underground at the Louisiana Martin Luther King Jr. Drive crossing.

SEE RIVER, 1A



NATCHEZ LITERARY &  
CINEMA CELEBRATION



## 'That story has to be told'



Oida Whitaker Dean, from Nacogdoches, Texas, and Natchez resident Thelma Williams discuss the detail in one of the West African textiles on display as part of the Finley Collection at the Natchez Association for the preservation of Afro-American Culture museum on Main Street Friday night. At top, University of Southern Mississippi professor Gina Gayle looks at one of the pieces of West African art on display Friday night.

## NLCC celebrates Wright, Finley exhibits

BY CAIN MADDEN  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ** — Adams County native son Richard Wright continues to have a presence in the area, 50 years after his death.

In conjunction with the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, the Natchez Association for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture Museum opened its doors to the Richard Wright Hall, which houses the Finley Collection of West African Art.

NAPAC Director Darrell White said while the hall

**"But I think this is a bright new beginning for the 21st century in Natchez — we have an opportunity to re-evaluate the black presence in Natchez."**

**Darrell White**  
NAPAC director

has been open since June, they chose to market it as a grand opening to excite people coming from out of

town, so they would come view the Richard Wright Hall, which is now a literary landmark.

"Wright visited West Africa on a political trip as the countries were coming out of colonization," he said. "He also looked at art, and these are the types of pieces that he may have looked upon."

The hall was absolutely wonderful, Richard Wright Scholar Jerry Ward said. He said he looked forward to helping with its further development.

"There is much more to explain about how he and

his family are important to the area," Ward said. "But I think this is a bright new beginning for the 21st century in Natchez — we have an opportunity to re-evaluate the black presence in Natchez."

"That story has to be told." The Richard Wright Hall and the Finley Collection are going to have an impact on the community, NAPAC Board of Trustees Chairman Rev. LeRoy White said.

"Young people can get the real story about Africa and its artifacts," he said. "They

SEE EXHIBIT, 1A

# Tourism Council applauds area promoters

BY JENNIFER EDWARDS  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ** — Tourism promotion isn't office work.

Promoting a city happens in restaurants, gift shops, bed and breakfast establishments and even on the street corner, and the Natchez-Adams Chamber of Commerce Tourism Council said a big "thank you" to all the faces of tourism promotion at the annual tourism awards ceremony Thursday in conjunction with national tourism week.

Natchez Mayor Jake Middleton said tourism work isn't something that starts at 9 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.

"Tourism promotion is hard work that happens every day," he said. "We all have to work every day to promote Natchez and the Miss-Lou."

"I'm thankful for all the people that we have that believe in tourism and work so hard to make it better."

Rene Adams, a member of the tourism council, said making tourism all it can be in Natchez takes teamwork.

"Tourism is not a one-person effort," she said.

*"Tourism promotion is hard work that happens every day. We all have to work every day to promote Natchez and the Miss-Lou. I'm thankful for all the people that we have that believe in tourism and work so hard to make it better."*

Jake Middleton

Natchez Mayor

Awards were presented to housekeeping staff members, restaurant staff members, homeowners and others who have a hand in making sure visitors enjoy their Natchez experiences.

Tourism Superstar awards were presented to those who go above and beyond in the tourism industry.

Recipients were Mary Williams, Mike Lomasney, Joseph



Judy Bartley, sister of the late Jack Pitchford, receives a hug from Mayor Jake Middleton after being recognized for her brother's work with tourism during the Tourism Awards Banquet at the Natchez Visitor Reception Center Thursday evening.

Ballen, Barbara Nell Lomasney, Janet Tyler, Sherry Rymes, Ruth Nichols, Bryant Reed, Wendy Grindin, Caroline Daughtry, Lanius Fortenberry, Nancy Best, Randy Ellis, Rose Bertum, Pat Jones, Orshay Seala, Margaret Bryd, Rosie Smith, Barbara Rodriguez, Brian Johnson, Melanie Trippa, Ringo Starr, Keith Wells

and Tiffany Mascagni.

Property of the year awards were presented to two business that, Adams said, have shown a commitment to excellence to visitors and locals alike.

Fit Mamas Tamales and Pig Out Inn were both named properties of the year.

"That corner of Canal Street

is always happening," Adams said.

The attraction of the year was given to Ginger Hyland and Regina Charboneau for their efforts to organize Christmas in Natchez: City of Lights.

The event of the year was given to the Carolyn Vance Smith and Copiah-Lincoln Community College Natchez campus for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration that takes place each year in February.

Miss Julep awards are given to families who have a legacy of tourism promotion. This year's awards went to Personage owners, the Metcalf family and longtime Fair Oaks owners, the Lannan family.

Gone but not forgotten awards are presented in honor of locals who have died, but will be remembered for their dedication to Natchez.

This year's honorees were Kirk Bartley, Frances Trosclair, Mary Frances and Thurston Jones, Eula Lee Bull, John and Betty Callon, Sim Callon, Charlie Montgomery, Pete Burns, Mr. and Mrs. Hazille Lannan Sr., Jack Benoit, Sarah McGeehan, Jack Pitchford and Inez Marlow.

2010 Part 3  
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BY JENNIFER EDWARDS  
THE NATCHEZ ADAMON

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## TODAY

**Toddler Storytime:** The Armstrong Library will host storytime from 10 to 10:30 a.m., every Tuesday for infants and toddlers age 3 and under—and moms, too. Nursery rhymes, songs, finger plays, stories, and fun.

**Jefferson Street United Methodist Church:** Will have a Lenten luncheon at noon every Tuesday through March 23. Inspiring speakers will be featured. Call 601-442-3795 for reservations.

**First Presbyterian Church:** Will have TOTIS program and Brown Bag lunch at 12:05 p.m.

**Copiah-Lincoln Community College:** Will offer free library classes from 3 to 5 p.m., each Tuesday and Thursday in the Tom Reed Academic Center, Room 319. Call 601-446-1151 for information.

**Natchez Community Hospital Birthing Center:** Will offer free infant care, breast-feeding/bottlefeeding and CPR classes from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Board Room. To pre-register call 601-445-6245.

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** **Happy Hour Group:** Will meet at 5:30 p.m. at Natchez Regional Medical Center in the Live Oak Room.

**West Primary School PTA:** Will be at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. The kindergarten classes of Mrs. Bitney, Mrs. Felts and Mrs. Watts will present the musical "African American Scientists," directed by Mr. Whitley. Refreshments will be served. The public is welcome.

**New Hope The Vision Center:** Will host Steve Brock, from the Trinity Broadcasting Network, at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. The center will also present a Miracle & Deliverance Crusade at 7 p.m. nightly through Feb. 26. Various guest ministers will be featured. The public is welcome.

**Natchez Historical Society:** Will meet at 7 p.m. at the Historical Natchez Foundation. Social will begin at 6:30 p.m. Guest will be Cheryl Munyer Walbridge. **Friidday, Natchez-Adams and Vidalia Chambers of Commerce:** Will sponsor a

## SUBMIT A TRACING

Know about a non-profit event or announcement for our Tracings? Let us hear from you. How and where to submit calendar items for Tracings: **ADDRESS:** 503 N. Canal St. **Office hours** are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. **FAX:** 601-442-7315. **E-MAIL:** tracings@natchezhistorical.com.

Please include a contact name and telephone number on all correspondence in case we have a question.

breakfast forum at 8:30 a.m. at the Ferriday Arcade.

**Mississippi State Fire Academy:** Will conduct firefighting essential skills at 6 p.m. nightly through Thursday at Foster Mound Volunteer Fire Department. Everyone is invited to attend. You do not have to be a current volunteer to attend.

**Concordia Parish Library and LaSalle Community Action:** Will offer free tax assistance from 9 a.m. to noon at the Vidalia Library for citizens with less than \$49,000 yearly income. Call 318-757-2707 for information.

**Concordia Parish Library and LSU AgCenter:** Will present "Internet Safety" at noon at the Vidalia Library. Lunch and learn.

**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24** **Natchez Children's Home Services Thrift Store:** Will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily through Friday. To donate, call 601-442-5669 or 601-442-6858.

**AARP Tax Aide:** Income tax returns prepared every Wednesday through April 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Armstrong Library for taxpayers with low and middle income, with special attention to people age 60 and older. Bring last year's tax return and other necessary documents. Free e-filing for Mississippi and Louisiana returns.

**The Pilgrimage Garden Club Board of Directors:** Will meet at 10 a.m., upstairs at the Gay 90s Building. Members are asked to

## attend.

**The Newcomers Club Luncheon:** Will be at The Vue at noon. Guest will be Spanish dancer, Isabel Dietz. All newcomers and interested residents are invited to attend. Call 601-445-2333 for information.

**Natchez Little Theatre:** Will present "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at 7 p.m. in the auditorium at 319 Union Avenue at Maple Street. Tickets are \$10 and should be reserved by calling 601-442-2233 or toll free at 1-877-440-2233.

**21st Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration:** Will be daily through Sunday with headquarters at the Natchez Convention Center. Daytime events are free. Tickets for "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" are available. Benefit reception and dinner will be Saturday at Stanton Hall. Call 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6522. For full agenda, visit [www.cohn.edu/nlc](http://www.cohn.edu/nlc). **Montgomery High School:** Will sponsor a LifeShare Blood Drive from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

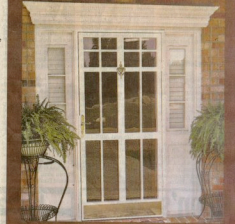
**Mississippi State Fire Academy:** Will conduct firefighting essential skills at 6 p.m. nightly through Thursday at Foster Mound Volunteer Fire Department. Everyone is invited to attend. You do not have to be a current volunteer to attend.

**THURSDAY, FEB. 25** **Southern Hospitality Training:** Will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Natchez Convention and Visitor Center for front-line and support staff. Call 601-445-4611 for reservations. **Adams County Master Gardeners:** Will prune crape myrtle trees at the Natchez City Cemetery at 8:30 a.m., and will meet at the maintenance barn. Call 601-445-8201 for information.

**Natchez Seniors Citizens Multipurpose Center:** Will have little study with the Rev. Cliff Marvel from 10 to 11 a.m.

**Natchez Chess Club:** Will have its weekly meeting from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Pig Out Inn. All players welcome including new players interested in learning the game of chess.

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## Books for Sale at the NLCC Bookstore

| NLCC Speakers          | Book Title   |
|------------------------|--|
| James C. Cobb          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture Agriculture and Industry</i>(edited by James C. Cobb and Melissa Walker) \$19.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Away Down South: A History of Southern Identity</i> \$18.95</li> <li>➤ <i>The Brown Decision, Jim Crow and Southern Identity</i> \$26.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Globalization and the American South</i>(edited by James C. Cobb and William Stueck) \$22.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Redefining Southern Culture: Mind and Identity in the Modern World</i> \$22.95</li> <li>➤ <i>The Mississippi Delta and the World: The Memoirs of David L. Cohn</i> \$34.95</li> <li>➤ <i>The Most Southern Place on Earth: The Mississippi Delta and the Roots of Regional Identity</i> \$19.95</li> </ul> |
| Don Estes              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>The Legends of the Natchez Cemetery</i> \$39.95</li> </ul>   |
| Trudier Harris         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>The Scary Mason-Dixon Line: African American Writers and the South</i> \$37.50</li> <li>➤ <i>Summer Snow: Reflections from a Black Daughter of the South</i> \$16.00</li> <li>➤ <i>South of Tradition: Essays on African American Literature</i> \$44.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Saints, Sinners, Saviors: Strong Black Women in African American Literature</i> \$33.00</li> <li>➤ <i>The Power of the Porch: The Storyteller's Craft in Zora Neale Hurston, Gloria Naylor, and Randall Kenan</i> \$26.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Fiction and Folklore: The Novels of Toni Morrison</i> \$18.00</li> <li>➤ <i>Black Women in the Fiction of James Baldwin</i> \$21.00</li> </ul>  |
| Mary Haskell           | CD – Collection of Mary Donnelly Haskell Vocal Performances \$10.00  |
| Sam Haskell            | ➤ <i>Promises I Made My Mother</i> \$24.00   |
| Inge, M. Thomas        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Anything Can Happen in a Comic Strip: Centennial Reflections on an American Art Form</i> \$15.00</li> <li>➤ <i>Charles M. Schultz: Conversations</i> \$22.00</li> </ul>  |
| Mark LaFrancis         | ➤ <i>In Their Boots: Poems Inspired by Soldiers and Their Loved Ones—Book One: Soldiers</i> \$12.95  |
| John Mayfield          | ➤ <i>Counterfeit Gentlemen: Manhood and Humor in the Old South</i> \$65.00   |
| Robert McElvaine       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America</i> \$13.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Franklin Delano Roosevelt</i> \$35.00</li> <li>➤ <i>The Depression and New Deal: A History in Documents</i> \$24.95</li> <li>➤ <i>The Great Depression: America, 1929-1941</i> \$17.00</li> <li>➤ <i>Down and Out in the Great Depression: Letters from the "Forgotten Man"</i> \$18.95</li> </ul>   |
| JoAnne Prichard Morris | ➤ <i>Barefootin': Life Lessons from the Road to Freedom (with Unita Blackwell)</i> \$23.00   |
| Willie Morris          | ➤ <i>My Two Oxfords (Foreword by JoAnne Prichard Morris)</i> \$20.00   |
| Cora Norman            | ➤ <i>Mississippi in Transition: The Role of the Mississippi Humanities Council</i> \$19.95   |
| Clifton Taulbert       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Watching Our Crops Come In</i> \$15.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Little cliff and the Cold Place</i> \$16.99</li> <li>➤ <i>The Journey Home: A Father's Gift to his Son</i> \$15.95</li> <li>➤ <i>Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored</i> \$13.00</li> <li>➤ <i>Eight Habits of the Heart</i> \$13.00</li> </ul>   |
| Jerry Ward, Jr.        | ➤ <i>The Katrina Papers</i> \$18.95  |
| Clyde Ray Webber, Jr.  | CD – A Visit to the Boneyard \$15.00<br>CD – There's Always Something Going On \$15.00   |
| Eudora Welty           | ➤ <i>The Collected Stories of Eudora Welty</i> \$16.00   |
| Diane Williams         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Literacy Development in the Storytelling Classroom</i> \$40.00</li> <li>➤ <i>The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum</i> \$35.00</li> </ul>   |

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# Humor Focus of Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration

"Humor in the Deep South" is the theme of the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, which will take place Feb. 25-28, 2010, in Natchez. The event is co-sponsored by the Department of Archives and History.

"This conference couldn't come at a better time," said NLCC founder and co-chairman Carolyn Vance Smith. "With the economy as it is, and with so many other serious pressures all around us, we hope the conference will let us slow down, laugh a little, and leave refreshed."

The Olympic Award-winning conference will feature four days of presentations, movie screenings, readings, and more, including:

- Programs by outstanding authors, historians, and film experts, including James C. Cobb, Thad Cochran, Trudier Harris, Mary Donnelly Haskell, Sam Haskell, M. Thomas Inge, Mark LaFrancis, John Mayfield, Scott Dixon McDowell, JoAnne Prichard Morris, Marshall Ramsey, Clifton Taulbert, Charles Vahlikamp, Sarah McLaurin Vahlikamp, Jerry W. Ward, Jr., Jane Feltus Welch, Rebecca Wells, Diane Williams, Charles Reagan Wilson, Gerald Wood, and others.

- Screening and discussion of Robert Harling's *Steel Magnolias* and Horton Foote's *The Trip to Bountiful*.

- Premiere screening of Scott Dixon McDowell's documen-



(From left) Karen Gilroy, Jane Petty, Eudora Welty, and Patti Carr Black enjoy a laugh in Oxford, Mississippi, in 1977. Photograph by Reynolds Price from the Patti Carr Black Collection.

tary Horton Foote: *Regional Voice*, *Universal Vision*, about the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and screenplay writer.

- Premiere screening of Mark LaFrancis's documentary *Now! That's Funny! Jokes, Stories,*

*and Other Musings from the Deep South*.

- Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards ceremony honoring authors Robert S. McElvaine, Jr., of Millsaps College and Steve Yarbrough

of Emerson College in Boston.

- Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting ceremony honoring the screenplay writer and playwright Robert Harling.

- Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award ceremony honoring Jerry W. Ward, Jr.

- The play *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, in cooperation with the Natchez Little Theatre.

- Writing workshops for adults and grade school children
- Book signings and other informal times with authors.

- Live music.
- Festive social events in two of Natchez's most beautiful mansions, Greenleaf and Stanton Hall.

Because of major support from the four co-sponsors as well as the Mississippi Humanities Council and other agencies, most of the NLCC is free of charge, Smith said. "There are only three ticketed events," she said.

Information and tickets are available at [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc); by calling toll-free 866-296-6522; or by emailing [NLCC@colin.edu](mailto:NLCC@colin.edu).

Sponsors of the NLCC are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, MDAH, Natchez National Historical Park, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Co-chairmen are Smith, representing Co-Lin; Kathleen Jenkins, NNHP; Jim Barnett, MDAH; and Sherry Johnson, MPB.

## PRESERVATION, continued from p. 1

of Mississippi, Lafayette County—\$40,724. *For repair and restoration of the stained glass window.*

(Old) Matty Hersee Hospital, Meridian, Lauderdale County—\$300,000. *For asbestos abatement.*

(Old) Carthage Elementary School, Carthage, Leake County—\$134,400. *For preservation*

*of the building.*

Elizabeth Cottage, Brookhaven, Lincoln County—\$98,260. *For stabilization of structural components and restoration of exterior architectural features.*

Tennessee Williams House, Columbus, Lowndes County—\$108,000. *For repair of floor and framing, reproduction*

*of fireplaces and chimneys, and roof replacement.*

Amory (Old) National Guard Armory, Amory, Monroe County—\$132,775. *For roof replacement.*

Liberty-White Depot Museum, Summit, Pike County—\$56,843. *For restoration of depot.*

Tallahatchie County Court-

house, Sumner, Tallahatchie County—\$205,000. *For replication of windows and doors.*

The Board of Trustees determined the grant recipients at a special meeting on December 4 in Jackson. To learn more about the CLG program, contact Mingo Tingle in the Historic Preservation Division of MDAH, 601-576-6952.

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MAY 43

Smith, Carolyn Vance

To: Layne Taylor  
Subject: RE: NATCHEZ LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS



**62nd Season**  
**proudly presents**



In cooperation with the  
**Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration**



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, at 7 p.m. (NLCC Benefit) \$10 tickets (only 50 seats remain)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, at 7:30 p.m. \$15 tickets (only 126 seats remain)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, at 7:30 p.m. \$15 tickets (only 36 seats remain)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, at 2 p.m. \$15 tickets (only 100 seats remain)

*For reservations & further information on the above performances, Call:*

**Natchez Little Theatre**  
**319 Linton Avenue at Maple Street**  
**601.442.2233**

Or visit: [www.natcheztheatre.org](http://www.natcheztheatre.org)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, at 7:30 p.m. \$15 tickets available through the NLCC

*For reservations & further information for Thursday's performance,*

*Call the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration: 601.446.1289*

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# Wolf Tracks

## Wolf Tracks at Co-Lin

Week of March 1, 2010

*We will be known by the tracks we leave behind. - Dakota Proverb*

### From Dr. Nettles

• It was a great week for the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in Natchez. The event is always well planned and the attendance was great this year. I want to thank Carolyn Vance Smith, Vice President Bushy and all the other Co-Lin faculty and staff for their role in preparing for the conference. The theme next year will be "Fields of Dreams: Sports in the South."

• I served as director of proceedings at the NLCC on Friday and Saturday because Governor William Winter went to Ole Miss to be inducted into the Law School Hall of Fame. I was fortunate to have dinner with Senator Thad Cochran on Friday night and Robert Harling on Saturday night (the guy that wrote Steel Magnolias). Also met Actor Gerald McRaney (Major Dad), writers Sam Haskill, Clifton Taulbert, Steve Yarbrough, cartoonist Marshall Ramsey and former Miss America, Linda Merade Shay.

• This is Co-Lin week at the Legislature. I will be traveling with other administrators to the Capitol each day this week. I will be posting updates on <http://twinter.com/RonnieNettles>

• The Board of Trustees will be meeting this Thursday at the Simpson County Center.

### From Dr. Hulon

#### NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION CEREMONY

The National Technical Honor Society for Wesson Campus inducted 50 new members from the fall semester and 50 new members from the spring semester. Thank you, Shirley Knapp, Brandon Russell, and Tim Lea for your leadership with this special ceremony. Also, thank you faculty and staff for the support that you showed by making it a priority to attend this event.

#### BUBBLE MAN PERFORMANCE

The Science Division is hosting three performances of Bubble Man in the Thames Center on Monday, Monday evening, and Tuesday. This is a great outreach opportunity for the college to interact with the elementary students and teachers of our district. Thanks to Dr. Kevin McKone, Leslie Hood, and all other who have played a role in planning this event.

#### 2nd ANNUAL CO-LIN TEXTBOOK FAIR



Faculty members, please make plans to attend the Textbook Fair in the Thames Center on Friday. Textbook representatives will be available to show their latest editions and supplementary materials. In addition, there will be exhibits of the latest instructional technology that is available for use in the classroom.

#### FACULTY/STAFF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Stephanie Turbo has recently contacted recipients of Faculty/Staff Development Committee funds regarding payments.

#### CAO/DEAN'S MEETING

Dr. Jane Hulon, Dr. John Dickerson, and Dr. Stephanie Duguid (guest) attended the MS Chief Academic Officers/Deans Association Meeting last

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## Happy Birthday

#### March 1

Rhonda Posey (W)  
Computer Information Systems  
Technology

Craig Hennington (W)  
Math/Computer Science

Jean Lea (W)  
Dormitory Hostess

#### March 2

Dr. John Dickerson (SC)  
Vice President of the Simpson Co.  
Center

#### March 4

Jan Brown (W)  
Secretary Physical Plant  
Ramona Thomas (W)  
Medical Radiologic Technology

#### March 7

Jason Cooley (SC)  
Business Division





# Natchez Campus



Opening ceremonies of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, above, packed the Natchez Convention Center. From left are Carolyn Vance Smith, founder and co-chairman; Dr. Ronnie Nettles, Co-Lin president; Teresa Basby, Natchez campus vice president; former Gov. William F. Winter, and photographer Doty Stabbs. At right, Nettles poses with actor Gerald McRaney.



## FILM CLUB TO SHOW 'PANDA'

"Kung Fu Panda" will be shown as the free film for the Film Club's Dinner/Theatre Wednesday, March 10, in the academic activity room, at 11 a.m. The dinner will be pasta and meat sauce, salad, bread, dessert and beverages, for only \$5. Tickets are being sold by club members. Also, tickets are available from advisor Mark LaFrancis. Part of the proceeds will go to the Natchez-Adams County Humane Society Building Fund.

## PTK CHAPTER HAS WEB PAGE

The Alpha Alpha Zeta chapter, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society has its own web page, available in the link off the Co-Lin web site. Click *Current Students, Clubs and Organizations*, and scroll to *Phi Theta Kappa*.

## 21ST NLCC A ROUSING SUCCESS

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was a rousing success Feb. 25-28 with crowds exceeding 300 and more for many of the programs. Co-Lin is the founding sponsor, and Dr. Ronnie Nettles, president, opened the program with greetings on Feb. 25 at the Natchez Convention Center. Co-Lin played a vital role in the celebration. Personnel staffed the bookstore and welcome table, introduced speakers, were presenters, provided security, technical support and filled many other roles. Many well-known individuals in the literary and film industries were in attendance and some received distinctive awards. For example, authors Robert S. McElvaine and Steve Yarbrough received the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award, while screenwriter Robert Harling received the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting from his friend and actor Gerald McRaney. Hollywood agent Sam Haskell gave an uplifting talk about his life and work, while his wife Mary Dornelly Haskell sang a stirring selection of songs. The NLCC concluded Sunday with workshops at Co-Lin. The next NLCC will be February 2011 with sports in the South as its theme.

## DEX DOES WELL AT STATE

Students in Delta Epsilon Chi did well at the state conference in Tupelo last week. Here are the results: Solenia Cain, 1st, Retail Management; 2nd, Web Design Megan Walton, 1st, Sales Representative Samantha Oliver, 4th, Hospitality Levandia Fitzgerald, 4th, Sales Representative Abby Brown, 5th Human Resources Patricia Reese, 6th Travel and Tourism Team of Abby Brown and Casey Steel, 6th Entrepreneurship; team of Patricia Reese, Darrell Harris and Yvette Green, 6th Culinary Academy. Other recognitions: Megan Edmonds for two years' service as a state officer; DEX chapter for charity work. Congratulations DEX!

## BLOOD DRIVE SCHEDULED MARCH 25

The campus will host a Blood Drive March 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Academic Activity Room (410). United Blood Services of Jackson will conduct the drive. See instructor John Bullen to sign up.

## BOT STUDENTS TO HEAR SPEAKER

Marci McGraw, chief financial officer for Riverpark Medical Center, will talk about a variety of job-related topics in a session for students in the business and office technology programs. Date: March 10, 9:30 a.m.

**Spring Break: March 15-19; campus closed**

Please contact Mark LaFrancis in the Office of Public Information at the Natchez Campus if you have any information that you would like to place in the Natchez News section of Wolf Tracks. He can be reached at extension 205 or by email at mark.lafancis@colin.edu

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Smith, Carolyn Vance

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From: Susan, Teresa  
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2010 10:00 AM  
To: Natchez Everyone  
Subject: Great Prices Available to You Today!

Good Morning, Co-Lin Natchez:

Mrs. Smith has a wonderful offer available to all of us today. You may purchase books from the recent NLOCC event at our cost. Yes! That's a great offer. Books always make great gifts. . . think birthdays. . . Mother's Day. . . and so on.

Maria Bowser will selling the books today from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the conference room next to the admissions office. Please come up and take a look at all we have to offer.

Have a great day.  
TAB

Teresa A. Burby  
Vice President of the Natchez Campus  
Capish-Lincoln Community College

"The greatness of a Nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."  
Mahatma Gandhi

2,010 proof 3  
dated 4/7

Smith, Carolyn Vance

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From: LaPhanie, Mark  
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2010 10:26 AM  
To: Natchez Students, Natchez Everyone  
Subject: Campus Calendar March 1, 2010, and beyond

Here is the Natchez campus calendar for Monday, March 1, 2010, and beyond.

## CHECK YOUR E-MAIL

Please make sure you check your e-mail DAILY. Don't miss out on what's happening around campus.

## LIBRARY EXHIBIT

The Willie Mae Dunn Library is hosting an exhibit of photographs taken in the region during the 1927 flood of the Mississippi River. The exhibit is provided by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

## INTENT TO GRADUATE FORMS ARE DUE IN ADMISSIONS BY MARCH 26

## BOOK SALE

Wide selection of books at discount prices, sponsored by the Natchez Library and Cinema Celebration, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Room 220 (conference room in the academic building, near the admissions office).

## ART EXHIBIT - STUDENTS AND STAFF

The Willie Mae Dunn Library is hosting a Student and Staff Art Exhibit during the month of April. Work should be brought to the library no later than March 29. The library is seeking work in the following medium: Photography, Ceramics, Painting, Sculpture, Collage/Mixed Media, Drawings, Fiber/Decorative Arts/Jewelry. See any member of the library staff for information.

## SPECIAL INTEREST CLASSES HAVE OPENINGS

Two evening Special Interest Classes have openings: Microsoft Office 2007, April 12-May 5, Monday and Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. (\$40), and Instant Piano, April 26, 6:30-9:30 p.m. (\$50). See Beth Richard in the library.



# The Natchez Democrat



**CITIZEN OF YEAR:** Mazique honored. **INSIDE** **FUN RUN:** Runners take to the streets for Junior Auxiliary. **1B**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2010

www.natchezdemocrat.com \$1.50



Author Robert McElvaine is presented the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award from John D. W. Guice during the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration awards ceremony.

## NLCC awards given

Ceremony honors three writers Saturday night

BY VERNAL HOGAN  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ**—Three writers were honored at the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration's awards ceremony Saturday. "Mississippi literary tradition is a marvel in the world of letters," said David Sansing, chairman of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Committee. "Mississippi has one of the highest rates of literacy in the United States, yet we have more Pulitzer Prize winners per acre than any other state in the union."

Because of that, the Richard Wright Literary excellence committee decided to award two literary excellence awards instead of just one, one for fiction and one for non-fiction, Sansing said. Presenter John Guice said that the work of the first recipient, Robert McElvaine, covered a wide range of scholar-

### NLCC: Writers honored in awards ceremony at Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration Saturday

and Yarbrough said reaction to what he wrote. "Yarbrough said, 'My father said he told us about the life he lived, and I can't imagine growing up. I can't imagine the amount of courage and fertility it must have taken him. To have an honest relationship with that man is an honor.'"

The recipient of the NLCC's Barton Post Award for Special Achievement in Journalism was Robert McElvaine, author of the play "Soul Magnolias." In addition to his previous experience, McElvaine said that, in receiving the award, he was able to use the word "humbled."

"I have to use the word 'humble,' as I stand under the shadow of a man who has been such an influence," he said.

Yarbrough said reaction to what he wrote. "Yarbrough said, 'My father said he told us about the life he lived, and I can't imagine growing up. I can't imagine the amount of courage and fertility it must have taken him. To have an honest relationship with that man is an honor.'"

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#### THE DETAILS

The NLCC will conclude today at Copiah-Lincoln Community College's Natchez campus with **TWO WORKSHOP SESSIONS**.

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## TRACINGS

### TODAY

**Pleasant Acre's Some-N-Special Shop:** Will be open from 8 to 11 a.m. Household items, no clothing, are needed and may be brought to Pleasant Acre from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

**Natchez Children's Home Services Thrift Store:** Will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily through Friday. To donate, call 601-442-5669 or 601-442-6858.

**The 21st annual Literary and Cinema Celebration:** Will begin at 9 a.m. daily through Saturday at the Natchez Convention Center. Daytime programs are free. Evening programs are ticketed. Call 601-446-1289 or 866-296-8522 or visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) or [nlcc@colin.edu](http://nlcc@colin.edu).

**Central Alternative School:** Will have its Black History program at 9:30 a.m. The public is welcome.

**Robert Lewis Middle School:** Will have its Black History program at 10:05 a.m. The public is welcome.

**The Natchez Board of Realtors:** Will meet at 11:45 a.m. at the Carriage House Restaurant. Guest will be Mayor Jake Middleton.

**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry:** Will have its annual Lenten fish fry from 5 to 7:30 p.m. every Friday of Lent at the Council home on S. Union Street. Dine in or take out. Call 601-870-5147 for information.

**Natchez Scottish Heritage Society:** Will meet at 6:45 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in the gymnasium. Program presented by Beverly Aldridge. Wear plaids, bring finger foods and invite guests.

**Natchez Little Theatre:** Will present "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at 7:30 p.m. for the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration in the auditorium at 319 Linton Ave. at Maple Street. Tickets are \$15 and should be reserved by calling 601-446-1289 or

### SUBMIT A TRACING

Know about a non-profit event or announcement for our Tracings? Let us hear from you. Here's how and where to submit calendar items for Tracings:

**ADDRESS:** 503 N. Canal St. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**FAX:** 601-442-7315.

**E-MAIL:** [tracings@natchezdemocrat.com](mailto:tracings@natchezdemocrat.com).

Please include a contact name and telephone number on all correspondence in case we have a question.

toll free at 1-866-296-6522 or on-line at [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

**Natchez Senior Citizens Multipurpose Center:** Will honor the troops today at the center.

**21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration:** Will be daily through Sunday with headquarters at the Natchez Convention Center. Daytime events are free. Tickets for "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" are available. Benefit reception and dinner will be Saturday at Stanton Hall. Call 601-446-1289 or toll-free 866-296-6522. For full agenda, visit [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

**Greenleaf Baptist Church, Fayette:** Will present "12 Disciples" at 6 p.m. The public is welcome.

**St. Andrew's Thrift Store, Bellemont Center:** Is now having a winter clearance sale. Donations are welcome and are tax deductible. Call 601-597-4377 for information.

### SATURDAY, FEB. 27

**Natchez High School:** Will sponsor a one day free event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the library to help students complete applications for financial aid. 2009 tax infor-

mation will be needed. \$500 scholarship will be awarded. Call 601-445-2861 for information.

**Natchez National Historical Park:** Will offer a downtown walking tour at 10 a.m., to begin at the Williams Johnson House. Call 601-446-5790 for information.

**Heart Health Workshop:** Will be at 10 a.m. at Rose Hill Baptist Church. Presenter will be Dr. V. Dulam. The public is welcome.

**Knights of Columbus:** Will sell spaghetti dinners from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 119 S. Union St. Cost is \$7. All proceeds to benefit the family of Claude Ray. Donations for the Ray family may be made to Adams County Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 805, Natchez, MS 39121.

**First Baptist Church Natchez Youth:** Will host a community wide youth praise and worship at 7 p.m. Guests will be worship band "Grafted" and Brian Richards will be the speaker. The public is welcome to attend.

**Beulah Baptist Church:** Will have its Black History program at 7 p.m. Guest will be Clifford Boxley.

**Natchez Little Theatre:** Will present "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at 7:30 p.m. for the Natchez Literary & Cinema Celebration in the auditorium at 319 Linton Ave. at Maple Street. Tickets are \$15 and should be reserved by calling 601-446-1289 or toll free at 1-866-296-6522 or on-line at [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

**River City Run for the Kids:** Will start and end at Bowie's on Broadway. 10k Run and 5k walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. One mile Fun run will be at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration is \$20. Race day registration is \$25. Entry forms may be picked up at the Natchez Visitors Center. Call 318-341-2602 for information. Sponsored by Junior Auxiliary of Natchez.

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# The Natchez Democrat



**LITERARY CELEBRATION:** Guide to this year's events **INSIDE**

**GO SAINTS:** Trinity girls go for title. **1B**

21st annual Natchez Literary  
and Cinema Celebration  
Will be daily through Sunday  
with headquarters at the  
Natchez Convention Center.  
Daytime events are free.  
Tickets for "Band Little White-  
house in Texas" are available.  
Benefit reception and dinner

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will be Saturday at Stanton  
Hall. Call 601-444-1289 or  
toll-free 866-298-6522. For  
full agenda, visit [www.com.eduinfo](http://www.com.eduinfo).



# 62nd Season proudly presents in cooperation with the Mississippi Arts Commission The Best Little Wherehouse in Texas

This organization is partially funded by the  
Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency,  
and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.  
Thursday - Saturday, February 25 - 27, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, February 28, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

## THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

|                      |   |                         |                  |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------|
| EMCEE                | Tracy Price   | MAYOR KIRKUS PONDREXTER | Dorlene Vesterse |
| JEWEL                | Erica Johnson   | SCRUGGS                 | Moe LeBlanc      |
| MONA STANLEY         | Ginger Hyland   | DOATSEY MAE             | Laurie Williams  |
| MELVIN P. THORPE     | James Wesley Ford   | SENATOR BINGWADAN       | Mike Thomas      |
| SHERIFF ED EARL DODD | Chris Cavette   | GOVERNOR                | Bo Allen         |
| THE GIRLS            | Debbie Boykin, Hester Rosa Brown, Rachel Lindsay, Leigh Anne Mason, Katie Sanderson, Alethea Shelton, Lou Ellen Stout, Danielle Thornton & Janelle Williams |                         |                  |
| THE AGGIES           | Eric Barbato, Holden Braswell, Stacey Carden, Jason Daughin, Darryl Grennell, Zachary Robinson & Dwight Williams  |                         |                  |

## THE BAND

|          |                |            |                  |
|----------|----------------|------------|------------------|
| KEYBOARD | Dorlene McCune | PERCUSSION | George K. Pitzer |
| BASS     | Bob Sizemore   | GUITAR     | Casey Gilbert    |

## THE CREW

|  |  |
|--|--|
| DIRECTOR                                 | Tommy Jackson  |
| MUSICAL DIRECTOR                         | Dorlene McCune   |
| STAGE MANAGERS                           | Don Vesterse   |
| SET DESIGN                               | Tommy Jackson  |
| CONSTRUCTION/DECORATION                  | Don Vesterse   |
| LIGHTING & SOUND                         | Tommy Jackson & Layne Taylor   |
| PROPS                                    | Don Vesterse   |
| COSTUMES                                 | The Cast & NLT   |
| HAIR                                     | Don Vesterse & The Cast  |
| MAKE-UP                                  | The Cast   |
| POSTER & PROGRAM DESIGN                  | Layne Taylor   |
| EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS                      | Adams County Board of Supervisors, Comcast Spotlight, Hampton Inn & Suites, King of Hearts Tuxedos and The Bridal Shop, The Natchez Democrat   |
| PRODUCERS                                | Copiah-Lincoln Community College, The Gator Radio, Dr. Ed Gaudet, KPNV River Radio, Isle of Capri Casino Hotel, The Natchez Eola Hotel & Guest House, Dr. David A. Timm, United Mississippi Bank |
| NLT EXECUTIVE & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR        | Layne Taylor   |
| NLT GENERAL MANAGER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR | Don Vesterse   |

# BEST LITTLE WHEREHOUSE IN TEXAS



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2010 part 3  
Misc. 51

# BEST BETS Weekend

## TODAY

### ARTS ENDEAVORS

■ **The Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts**, 1 p.m. today at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church honors five recipients for stellar arts achievements: Lenagene Waldrop (arts in community); Bessie Johnson (Mississippi heritage); Grassroots Radio Show (excellence in broadcasting); Wyatt Waters (artistic excellence); David "Honeyboy" Edwards (lifetime achievement). Join a toast to our best; the ceremony is free and open to the public.

■ **The 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration** turns lens on "Humor in the Deep South," through Sunday with programs by authors, historians and film experts. Find details online at [www.colin.edu/nlc](http://www.colin.edu/nlc).

■ **The St. Andrew's Episcopal School Dece** fundraiser showcases stylish living with tours of the condos at City View through Sunday. Works by area artists and designers and more are featured. Find details at [www.stapresents.com](http://www.stapresents.com).

■ Tonight marks the final weekend of performances of Fondren Theatre Workshop's **Talk Radio**. With veteran actor Danny Dauphin as Barry Champlain, the provocative drama explores late-night shock-jock radio.

See page 10D.

### MUSIC

■ **Eddie Cotton** (below) starts a three-night stand at the Auditorium, continuing the series through March, making it the perfect time to catch up on some cool blues. Look out for college student specials tonight.

See page 14D.

## FRIDAY

### MOVIES

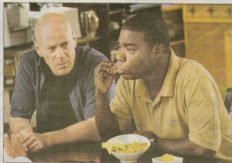
■ **Bruce Willis** is back, gun in hand, to kick some criminal tail, along with Tracy Morgan as longtime NYPD partners up against a gangster, in **Cop Out**.

See page 17D.

■ An irreflexion of insanity turns a quiet, law-abiding American town into a hotbed of nonsensical violence in **The Crazies**. And when the government closes off access to contain the madness, even the uninfected can't get out.

### MUSIC

■ Bask in real-deal blues with a lineup of **Honeyboy Edwards**, **King Edward** and **Grady Champion** at the



The Associated Press

Bruce Willis, left, and Tracy Morgan partner up in **Cop Out**, opening Friday.

930 Blues Cafe.

■ Revel in the rhythms of **The Tim Lee 3**, **Jake Winstrom** and **Used Goods** at 121 Millsaps.

See page 9D.

## SATURDAY

### FAMILY FUN

■ See some sparkle at the 51st annual **Mississippi Gem & Mineral Show**, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 on Sunday at the Mississippi Trade Mart. Dozens of vendors offer an array of finished jewelry, findings, gemstones, minerals and fossils in all price categories. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students.

■ Catch one of two shows of **Puppet Arts Theatre's** production of **Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters** at the Mississippi Museum of Art.

■ Spend a charming and musical **Year with Frog & Toad** at New Stage Theatre.

See page 5D.

### ACTION

■ Mixed martial arts comes to the **Wahabi Shriner's Building**, 7

p.m. with **Bring It On**. Tickets, \$26, 10, are on sale through Ticketmaster outlets and online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

### MUSIC

■ Grab a brew and a groove at the 25th **Birthday Bash** at Hal & Ma's, where bands galore join in the celebration of this Jackson institution.

See page 12D.

■ Cozy up to classical music with at the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra's **Bravo N°: Romantic Preludes and Scandinavian Grandeur**. Principal clarinetist Ana Ramirez is featured.

See page 6D.

—Compiled by Sherry Lucas

## CONTACT US

|   |                |
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Small text:  
Weekend, The Clarion Ledger, Box 46, Jackson MS 39202-0046

Weekend prints information about entertainment events. To ensure your event is listed in the next edition, get it to us by noon Tuesday.



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**ABOUT ROBERT HARLING,**  
**THE AUTHOR of STEEL**  
**MAGNOLIAS**

Robert Harling, the 2010 winner of the NLCC's Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting is an American writer who often bases his plays and screenplays on personal experiences.

He grew up in Natchitoches, La., and is a graduate of Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches. He attended the School of Law at Tulane University in New Orleans.

He lived afterwards in New York, acting and working as a voiceover artist before penning the script for *Steel Magnolias*.

He is best known for this play and film, which were inspired by his sister's death from kidney failure in 1985. The story deals with a young woman stricken with an illness who is determined to live life to the fullest. Mr. Harling, who wrote the play in 10 days, had never before written for publication.

In 1989 he adapted the play into a popular film with a star-studded cast including Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Julia Roberts, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah, and Sally Field. Mr. Harling played a small role in the film as a minister. The film was shot entirely on location in Natchitoches, where the events on which the story was based took place.

Other immensely popular films by Mr. Harling include *Soapdish*, *The Evening Star*, and *The First Wives Club*. Mr. Harling is currently hard at work juggling many projects for stage and screen. He divides his time between New York and Natchitoches.

**The 21<sup>st</sup> annual Natchez Literary  
and Cinema Celebration**

**Presents**

**HUMOR  
IN THE DEEP SOUTH**

**Saturday, February 27, 2010**

**Reception at Stanton Hall**

**Dinner at the  
Carriage House Restaurant**

**Natchez, Mississippi**

**Featuring  
Food and Drink from  
Robert Harling's**

***Steel Magnolias***

# About This Project

*...What I do make my stories out of is the whole kind of my feelings, my responses to the real experience of my own life, to the relationships that formed and changed it, that I have given most of myself to, and so learned my way toward a dramatic counterpart."*

In her book, "Our Writer's Beginnings," Eudora Welty superbly describes growing up with the burning desire to write as a way to express her feelings and to use her imagination.

She did not set out to become one of Mississippi's foremost writers, yet this inquisitive, studious girl from a sleepy Mississippi town left an indelible mark on the world with her words.

In the same love for writing that empowered Eudora Welty -- and the significant group of other Mississippi writers -- to blossom, we developed this project for young writers in our area: "The Chocolate Milk Café: Young Authors Say 'A Funny Thing Happened the Other Day.'" Partners in "The Chocolate Milk Café" are Capital-Lincoln Community College's Matchee Campus, the Matchee Library and Cinema Celebration, the Judge George W. Armstrong Library, and the Friends of the Armstrong Library.

We invited all youngsters in grades 5 and 6 in Adams County and Congerella Parish to submit, through their teachers, stories, essays and poems. In these grades, children have begun to craft writing skills and use those skills with excitement and emotion. At that age, young writers begin finding a voice through which they relate their world just as Eudora Welty did. We required the writers to use the theme of humor in their work to correlate with the 2016 Matchee Library and Cinema Celebration whose theme is: "Humor in the Deep South."

The writers were invited to present their work before a live audience at the Willie Mae Dunn Library at Capital-Lincoln Community College's Matchee Campus on Saturday, February 27, 2016, as one of the events of the Matchee Library and Cinema Celebration.

"The Chocolate Milk Café" is an excellent opportunity for young writers to receive recognition for their talents while letting them explore their own inner worlds as Eudora Welty did, and express themselves in the powerful medium of the written word.

We hope you enjoy their work.

- G. Mark LaFrancis, Founder and Coordinator, Chocolate Milk Café

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# For a Good Cause

Proceeds benefit Co-Lin projects for young writers. Price: \$2.00 per book.  
Shipping and handling: \$2.00 per book.



**"LAUGHING MATTERS:  
A LOOK AT HUMOR THROUGH A CULTURAL LENS"**

by Ms. Diane Williams  
Professional storyteller/author and Arts Industry Director and Accessibility  
Coordinator, Mississippi Arts Commission, Jackson, Miss.

&  
Ms. Diane O'Toole  
Mississippi Development Authority, Jackson, Miss.

11 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010  
Nelson Multi-Purpose Room, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez, Mississippi

Presiding: Ms. Diamond J. Morgan

This program is a special pre-conference component of  
the 21st Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration sponsored by Student Support Services.

**"HUMOR IN THE DEEP SOUTH"**

Thurs.-Sat., Feb. 25-27, 2010  
Headquarters: Natchez Convention Center, 211 Main Street

All daytime events during the conference are free of charge.  
Ticketed NLCC events are Thurs., Fri., and Sat. evenings, Feb. 25-27.  
Students, faculty, and general public are invited.

Sun., Feb. 28, 2010  
The Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops at Copiah-Lincoln Community College are free of  
charge. They are on-newspaper cartoon work and on documentary film making.  
The workshops will be from 8:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., Sun., Feb. 28, 2010.

For a complete conference schedule and ticket information: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

The NLCC is sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez National Historical  
Park, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and Mississippi Public Broadcasting.  
This project is partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.



# Natchez Campus

## NLCC HAS OUTSTANDING LINEUP OF PROGRAMS

The 21st Annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration kicks off on Thursday, Feb. 27 at the Natchez Convention Center. What follows will be an outstanding lineup of speakers, special features, films, awards, and other activities, most all of which are free. Most all the activities are listed on the Co-Lin web site: [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc). The theme this year: "Humor in the Deep South"

Here's a quick look at just some of the highlights:

**Wednesday:** Pre-NLCC program, 11 a.m. W. L. Nelson Multi-Purpose

Room. Storyteller Diane Williams and friend Diana O'Toole will present: "Laughing Matters: A Look at Humor through a Cultural Lens."

**Thursday:** 9 a.m., Natchez Convention Center: Welcome by Dr. Nettles and opening ceremonies. The highly acclaimed film "Steel Magnolias" will show at the Natchez Mall Cinemas at 2:30 and 5 p.m. (ticket required, may be obtained from the NLCC office). The play "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" will be performed at Natchez Little Theatre, 7:30 p.m. (\$15). At 2:30 Judy Wiggins will portray the role of "Sister" in Eudora Welty's "Why I Live at the P.O." during Sarah McLaurin Vahlkamp's "Double Names, Corruption Fits, and 'Kiss My Foot': Laughing at Ourselves with Eudora Welty and Other Southerners," at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. in the Natchez Convention Center.

**Friday:** Premiere screening of "Now That's Funny! Jokes, Stories and other Musings from the Deep South," by Co-Lin Natchez, 10:15 a.m., Natchez Convention Center: "A Festive Evening Celebrating the Arts and the Humanities," which includes a presentation best-selling author Sam Haskell, presentation of the U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran Humanities Achievement Award to Dr. Jerry W. Ward Jr., a vocal program by Mary Donnelly Haskell, introduced by Lynda Mead Shea, former Miss America. A Gala Reception will be held at Greenlea. The event begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday:** Premiere of "Horton Foote: Regional Voice, Universal Vision" by Dr. Scott Dixon McDowell, University of Southern Mississippi, 9 a.m., special presentation about Horton Foote by actor Gerald McRaney, 3:15 p.m.; presentation of the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Awards and the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting, 4:30 p.m., all at the Convention Center. At Co-Lin Natchez, 11 a.m., the Fifth Annual Chocolate Milk Cafe: Young Writers say 'A Funny Thing Happened the Other Day.' This is a ticket-only event. See Mark LaFrancis. **Sunday:** Ellen Douglas Writing Workshops, Co-Lin Natchez: 8:30 a.m., "Capturing the News in Cartoons," Marshall Ramsey, political cartoonist; and 11 a.m. "How Not to Make a Documentary Film," Scott Dixon McDowell.

*There are many more presentations and programs not listed here. During the NLCC, authors will sign books and have DVDs and CDs available.*



One of the art works designed by Patricia Knight, artist and NLCC secretary.

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# The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration

Sponsored by  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College  
Natchez National Historical Park  
Mississippi Department of Archives and History  
Mississippi Public Broadcasting

Post Office Box 1397  
Natchez, MS 39121-1397  
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E-mail [Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu)  
Website [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc)

January 2010

To: Faculty and staff, Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez Campus  
From: Carolyn Vance Smith, Founder and Co-chairman, Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration  
Re: 21<sup>st</sup> annual NLCC

Some Co-Lin family members are already donating their money, goods, time, and energy to the NLCC. They'll receive two tickets to a fabulous evening program at the Convention Center on Friday, Feb. 26. This will be followed by a beautiful reception at the historic mansion, Greenlea, 211 S. Wall St., the home of Stella and Philip Carby.

This ticket costs \$10 for other participants but is free to Co-Lin family members who assist with the NLCC.

You might want to help, too. We have many needs. If you can assist, please check the attached sheet and return it to me in the NLCC box in the Tom Reed Academic Center, or fax it to 601-446-1214, or email me at [Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu](mailto:Carolyn.Smith@colin.edu).

In return, you, too, will receive a ticket to the Friday evening activities. We'll have a good time!

Also, free tickets are available for two screenings of *Steel Magnolias* at the Natchez Mall Cinema, at 2:30 p.m. and again at 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 25. If you want these tickets, please email [Patricia.Knight@colin.edu](mailto:Patricia.Knight@colin.edu). Your tickets can be picked up at the Convention Center beginning at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 25.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important Co-Lin conference. I hope to see you at the NLCC, which will take place at Co-Lin, the Convention Center, Natchez Little Theatre, Natchez High School, and Natchez Mall Cinema. For the entire agenda, see the brochure or go to [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc).

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# Natchez The Democrat

LOVE: Florists prep for Valentine's Day. 10

WHO DAT: Local Saints fans enjoy Super Bowl experience. 1B

www.natchezdemocrat.com \$1.50

## DOES NATCHEZ HAVE A...

# GANG

## PROBLEM?

Officials say area is home to unknown number of small gangs

BY KRISTANDRA JACKSON  
THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ** — Adams County is by no means the gang capital of America, but it ain't Mayberry either.

Gangs have taken on a mythical quality in the city and county, law enforcement officials say, but the problem is real, and has been for quite some time.

"Whether it's a large street gang in Chicago or a small, disorderly gang in Natchez, the crime is still the same," Adams County Sheriff Chuck Mayfield said.

"You still have drive-by shootings, you still have drug deals, you still have turf wars. Our problem here is just as bad as any other place, and it's not limited to one race or ethnicity."

Natchez Police Chief Mike Mullins said ar-  
as gangs are essentially neighborhood groups that build violent rivalries. An average gang member's age ranges between 13 and 20, and members often commit crimes such as aggravated or simple assault,

malicious mischief, petty theft, and disorderly conduct.

Mayfield said some gang members are as young as 9 years old, and perform illegal acts to save older members from harsher punishment.

Both Mayfield and Mullins' gang demographics are derived from respective gang intelligence databases.

"We rely on the information we receive, and that information is hard to get," Mullins said. "We do keep intelligence on who's involved and what they're involved in. By having that information, it gives us a place to start when a crime occurs."

Mayfield and Metro Narcotics Commander David Lindsey are building ACSO's database to pinpoint exactly how many gangs exist in the area, and where they are located.

"We're putting informants in these groups to get more information on their movement, gang tattoos and gang parapher-

**"Whether it's a large street gang in Chicago or a small, disorderly gang in Natchez, the crime is still the same. Our problem here is just as bad as any other place, and it's not limited to one race or ethnicity."**

**Chuck Mayfield**

Adams County Sheriff

SEE GANGS, 1A

NLCC

## Authors to win awards

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

**NATCHEZ** — Three nationally known authors with Southern roots will win writing awards at the 21st annual Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration in Natchez.

The conference takes place Feb. 25-28, using the theme, "Humor in the Deep South." Headquarters will be the Natchez Convention Center in downtown Natchez.

Authors winning the Richard Wright Literary Excellence Award are:

► The best-selling historian Robert S. McElvaine, professor at Millsaps College in Jackson

► The award-winning novelist Steve Yarbrough, a graduate of the University of Mississippi and now a professor at Emerson College in Boston

### THE DETAILS

Authors

ROBERT S.

MCELVAINE,

STEVE

YARBROUGH

AND

ROBERT

HARLING

will receive

awards during

the Natchez

Literary and

Cinema

Celebration

Feb. 25-28.

Winning the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting is Robert Harling of Natchitoches, La., and New York City.

All three will be present to receive the awards and make remarks at a free public ceremony at 4:30 p.m., Feb. 27.

"We are delighted to have these outstanding contemporary writers coming to Natchez," said Carolyn Vance Smith of Copiah-Lincoln Community College, founder and co-chairman of the NLCC.

"The conference is indebted to the hard-working awards committees."

McElvaine is author of "Grand Theft Jesus: The Hijacking of Religion in America," "Franklin Delano Roosevelt," "Eve's Seed: Biology, the Sexes and the Course of History," "The Depression and New Deal: A History in Documents," "What's Left?" — A New

SEE NLCC, 3A

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March 58

# UX SAINTS!



# REGION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2010

THE NATCHEZ DEMOCRAT

www.natchezdemocrat.com 3A

Mississippi's Best Community Daily Newspaper

## REGIONAL DIGEST

### Refinery explosion shuts down unit

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — A spokeswoman at the Calumet Specialty Product Partners refinery in Shreveport says an explosion shut down an environmental unit that cleans up residential gas.

Fire Department safety chief Scott Wolverton says nobody was hurt and the explosion Friday did not start any fires.

Neighbors say it broke windows and knocked tiles from a wall and china out of a cabinet.

### MAYORS:

Concordia Parish mayors will be in D.C. this week

FROM PAGE 1A

ing on them, but in the meantime it is important to maintain those relationships."

Meeting with the congressional delegates has yielded fruitful results in the past.

"The end results through our past meetings through the years was obtaining funding sources (for past projects)," Copeland said.

"They know who you are by seeing you and talking to you, and we have come on first name basis with our congressional delegation."

When not discussing the U.S. 84 project, Copeland said he and City

## NLCC: Nationally renowned authors will receive awards and make remarks at 4:30 p.m., Feb. 27

FROM PAGE 1A

Democratic Vision for America," "Mario Cuomo: A Biography," "The End of the Conservative Eric Liberman After Reagan," "The Great Depression: America, 1929-1941" and "Down and Out in the Great Depression: Letters from the Forgotten Man."

McElvaine's books regularly appear on the New York Times best-seller lists and on Notable Books of the Year lists. "Eve's Seed" was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Verborgh's major works include the novels "Safe from the Neighbors," published by Knopf in January 2000, "The End of California," "Prisoners of War," "Night Spins" and "The Oxygen Man." He is also author of the short story collections, "Family Men," "Mississippi History" and "Venues."

Harling, winner of the Horton Foote Award for Special Achievement in Screenwriting, is an American writer who often bases his plays and screenplays on his past personal experiences.

He lived afterwards in New York, acting and working as a voiceover artist before penning the script for "Steel Magnolias."

He is best known for this play and film, which were inspired by his sister's death from kidney failure in 1985. The story deals with a young woman stricken with an illness who is determined to live life to the fullest.

Harling, who wrote the play in 10 days, had never before written for publication.

In 1989 he adapted the play in-

to a popular film starring Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Julia Roberts, Dolly Parton, Daryl Hannah and Sally Field. Harling played a small role in the film as a minister.

Tickets for the benefit event are limited. They are available at \$35 each, with \$300 tax-deductible, by calling 866-296-6822, going online to [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) and clicking on tickets, by e-mailing NLCC@colin.edu or by sending a check to NLCC, PO Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.

## 'Brother, Can You Spare a Time?'

Krewe de Who hosts parade



MISSISSIPPI

## 58 dogs rescued in Lexington

LEXINGTON (AP) — A disabled former nurse and dog breeder in Holmes County called a Utah animal shelter for help with 58 dogs in her falling-down house.

Many of the dogs — most of them wire-haired terriers — will be taken Tuesday to a shelter in Denver, because In Defense of Animals' Project Hope sanctuary near Granada is full, said Dell Stanley, director of investigations for the group's Mid-South office.

She said the Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, called her office after the woman called for help because she could no longer afford to care for the dogs.

Neither Stanley nor veterinarian Walter Roberts, who helped remove 19 of the dogs and treat those needing urgent care, would identify the woman. They say she is elderly and was doing all she could.

"She loved the dogs so much and didn't want to give them to someone who wouldn't take care of them," Stanley said.

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# e read

## w of the day's news

able to block legislation with filibusters. Polls show that many Americans feel Obama and his congressional allies have not sought enough GOP input, although Democrats say Republicans have shown virtually no interest in seeking a realistic agreement.

### Study: Unused meds may end up in water

**PORTLAND, Maine (AP)** — The federal government advises throwing most unused or expired medications into the trash instead of down the drain, but they can end up in the water anyway, a study from Maine suggests.

Tiny amounts of discarded drugs have been found in water at three landfills in the state, confirming suspicions that pharmaceuticals thrown into household trash are ending up in water that drains through waste, according to a survey by the state's environmental agency that's one of only a handful to have looked at the presence of drugs in landfills.

## OUR REGRETS

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The theme of the Krewe de Who Mardi Gras parade, published Sunday, should have read "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight. Also, the story titled "Authors to win awards," published Sunday, should have stated that a festive reception and dinner at Stanton Hall will follow the NLCC's awards ceremony. The awards ceremony is free to the public. Tickets for the benefit event are limited. They are available at \$135 each, with \$100 tax-deductible, by calling 866-296-6522; going online to [www.colin.edu/nlcc](http://www.colin.edu/nlcc) and clicking on tickets; by emailing [NLCC@colin.edu](mailto:NLCC@colin.edu); or by sending a check to NLCC, PO Box 1307, Natchez, MS 39121.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2010. There are 326 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 8, 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

## AT YOUR SERVICE

### Reader services

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|-------------------------|--------------|
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|-------------------------|---------|
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| Mail Delivery, 3 months | \$58.25 |

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